

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 3, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Majority of the Committee on Judiciary to which
was referred HB 1014,**

**AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted
virtually. Having considered the same, report the same
with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark McLean

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 1014
Title:	allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.
Date:	February 3, 2022
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill gives public bodies the option to meet by electronic or other means of communication in lieu of meeting in person. The majority of the Judiciary Committee expressed concern that the bill allowed for 100% remote access without the need for any physical location. The complete absence of a requirement for any physical location could lead to a lack of access for those that do not possess the technology required to attend. While the minority amendment does seek to address this shortcoming, the bill also directs that the meeting be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting. The committee felt that this section of the bill was problematic as the public is poorly defined, and that it forces a full adjournment for any technical issues. Options, like recessing temporarily to address any technical issues, are not available in this bill.

Vote 11-10.

Rep. Mark McLean
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Judiciary

HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark McLean for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This bill gives public bodies the option to meet by electronic or other means of communication in lieu of meeting in person. The majority of the Judiciary Committee expressed concern that the bill allowed for 100% remote access without the need for any physical location. The complete absence of a requirement for any physical location could lead to a lack of access for those that do not possess the technology required to attend. While the minority amendment does seek to address this shortcoming, the bill also directs that the meeting be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting. The committee felt that this section of the bill was problematic as the public is poorly defined, and that it forces a full adjournment for any technical issues. Options, like recessing temporarily to address any technical issues, are not available in this bill. **Vote 11-10.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

February 3, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on Judiciary to which
was referred HB 1014,**

**AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted
virtually. Having considered the same, and being
unable to agree with the Majority, report with the
following amendment, and the recommendation that
the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Alexis Simpson

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

MINORITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Judiciary
Bill Number:	HB 1014
Title:	allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.
Date:	February 3, 2022
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2022-0460h

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The minority of the committee recommends Ought to Pass with Amendment in response to a need from state and local public bodies to be able to meet remotely or to provide a remote option for their members. This bill would provide direction for public notice and access to remote meetings and meetings with an option for remote attendance under the Right-to-Know Law, RSA 91-A. There is no requirement here, only guidance for a body that wants to offer a remote option. The bill also addresses potential right-to-know issues with online chat functions. The amendment would require a physical location for all public meetings, but would allow the quorum to be met by members remotely and in person. We have heard from leaders in communities around the state that have been unable to make a quorum in person. They would like to be able to count those participating remotely as part of a quorum. Remote options have been overwhelmingly supported by the public to enhance accessibility. The amendment also makes it clear that when there is a remote option for a body that takes public comment, the public must be able to provide comment remotely.

Rep. Alexis Simpson
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Judiciary

HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Alexis Simpson for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The minority of the committee recommends Ought to Pass with Amendment in response to a need from state and local public bodies to be able to meet remotely or to provide a remote option for their members. This bill would provide direction for public notice and access to remote meetings and meetings with an option for remote attendance under the Right-to-Know Law, RSA 91-A. There is no requirement here, only guidance for a body that wants to offer a remote option. The bill also addresses potential right-to-know issues with online chat functions. The amendment would require a physical location for all public meetings, but would allow the quorum to be met by members remotely and in person. We have heard from leaders in communities around the state that have been unable to make a quorum in person. They would like to be able to count those participating remotely as part of a quorum. Remote options have been overwhelmingly supported by the public to enhance accessibility. The amendment also makes it clear that when there is a remote option for a body that takes public comment, the public must be able to provide comment remotely.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Amendment to HB 1014

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted with a virtual component.

4

5 Amend RSA 91-A:2, III as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

6

7 III. A public body may, but is not required to, allow one or more members of the body to
8 participate in a meeting by electronic or other means of communication for the benefit of the public
9 and the governing body, subject to the provisions of this paragraph.

10 ~~(a) A member of the public body may participate in a meeting other than by attendance~~
11 ~~in person at the location of the meeting only when such attendance is not reasonably practical. Any~~
12 ~~reason that such attendance is not reasonably practical shall be stated in the minutes of the~~
13 ~~meeting.~~

14 ~~(b) Except in an emergency, a quorum of the public body shall be physically present at~~
15 ~~the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting. For purposes of this~~
16 ~~subparagraph, an "emergency" means that immediate action is imperative and the physical presence~~
17 ~~of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The~~
18 ~~determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman or presiding officer of the~~
19 ~~public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be included in the minutes of~~
20 ~~the meeting.~~

21 ~~(c) Each part of a meeting required to be open to the public shall be audible or otherwise~~
22 ~~discernable to the public at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the~~
23 ~~meeting.]~~

24 ***(a) Each meeting shall have a physical location. Members of the public body***
25 ***and the public may participate in person or remotely. The public body shall provide***
26 ***remote access to the meeting by telephone and by video or other electronic means of***
27 ***communication.***

28 ***(b) Public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the***
29 ***meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in this chapter. The***
30 ***notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting***
31 ***if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to***
32 ***access the meeting.***

Amendment to HB 1014

- Page 2 -

1 (c) Each member participating electronically or otherwise [~~must~~] ***in a meeting***
2 ***required to be open to the public shall*** be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to
3 each other during the meeting, and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in
4 attendance at the meeting's location. Any member participating in such fashion shall identify ***the***
5 ***location from which the person is participating and*** the persons present in the location from
6 which the member is participating. No meeting shall be conducted by electronic mail or any other
7 form of communication, ***including an online chat function,*** that does not permit the public to
8 hear, read, or otherwise discern meeting discussion contemporaneously at the meeting location
9 specified in the meeting notice.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1014

BILL TITLE: allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

DATE: February 3, 2022

LOB ROOM: 206-208

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. McLean

Seconded by Rep. Merner

Vote: 11-10

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Kurt Wuelper, Clerk



2021 SESSION

Judiciary

Bill #: HB1014 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2-3-22

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Gordon, Edward M. Chairman	✓		
McLean, Mark Vice Chairman	✓		
Sylvia, Michael J.	✓		
Wuelper, Kurt F. Clerk	✓		
Alexander, Joe H.	✓		
Rice, Kimberly A. EDWARDS	✓		
Silber, Norman J. MERNER	✓		
Greene, Bob J.	✓		
Kelley, Diane E.	✓		
Tausch, Lindsay ANDRUS	✓		
Trottier, Douglas R.	✓		
Smith, Marjorie K.		✓	
Berch, Paul S. WOODS		✓	
Horrigan, Timothy O.		✓	
DiLorenzo, Charlotte I.		✓	
Chase, Wendy		✓	
Kenney, Cam E.		✓	
Langley, Diane M.		✓	
McBeath, Rebecca Susan		✓	
Paige, Mark		✓	
Simpson, Alexis		✓	

Kurt Wuelper

11

10

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1014

BILL TITLE: allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

DATE: 1-27-22

LOB ROOM: 206/8

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 11:33 AM

Time Adjourned: 12:40 PM

Committee Members: Reps. Gordon, McLean, Wuelper, Sylvia, Alexander Jr., Notter, Merner, Greene, D. Kelley, Andrus, Trottier, M. Smith, Berch, Horrigan, DiLorenzo, Chase, Kenney, Langley, McBeath, Paige and Simpson

Bill Sponsors:

Rep. Simpson, Rock. 36; Rep. Cushing, Rock. 21; Rep. Cote, Hills. 31; Rep. Weber, Ches. 1; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 5; Rep. Marsh, Carr. 8; Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 42

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Rep Simpson Sponsor When we discussed remote meetings last year, we had concerns I have tried to address. This bill is much narrower than previous versions. I only give public bodies the option of having remote meetings and, it adds rules that must be followed by the public body under RSA 91-A. It gives the decision about having remote meetings to the local body, not to an individual. The need for remote meetings is very important to many people who can't physically attend meetings. Currently, the public body can't hold remote meetings and the public can't participate remotely. Q Wuelper: Is there a required physical locations in this bill? Ans: No. There is an option for a completely remote meeting in it. Q: If you are having a remote meeting, do you have to allow access from the public in that meeting? Ans: I believe RSA 91-A leaves public input to the public body. I am unsure if the answer to your question is in HB 1014. Q: It's my understanding that one part of having public meetings is for the public to interface with their elected officials in one form or another. If the meeting is totally remote, isn't public input a necessary part of the meeting? Ans: Yes, and I don't see that requirement being changed from the current law.

Q Sylvia: If a meeting is totally remote, how much transparency is there if, for example, members of the body are texting each other during the meeting? Ans: I don't know if that would be different if the meeting is in person or remote Wouldn't it be more apparent if the meeting were in person? Ans: I doubt we can tell what people are doing behind their screens now. Q Horrigan: Would this allow non-public meetings if needed? Ans: I think that is addressed elsewhere in 91-A. Q Chase: What about a quorum? Ans: I would be easier to make a quorum. Q Sylvia: What happens to those who may not have access? Ans: There is a requirement that if people can't access they must be able to notify about the problems

Rep Steve Smith Sullivan 11 Opposed This bill is neither Implementable nor enforceable. If there is a problem with access, the meeting will be adjourned: We all have deadlines and repeated meetings will make it very difficult to meet those deadlines. Someone from Oklahoma calls in and can't access the meeting, the meeting is over with no chance to investigate. Who is the public? We have seen disrupters and this is a perfect opportunity for miscreants to disrupt the entire process. Imagine if every hearing in this House had to be stopped by a single complaint. What happens when someone calls in to report access failure. If you have good technology remote meetings can work pretty well. Many people do not have this level of technology. Remote meetings could force people to spend money to upgrade their technology just to participate. We are public servants and the least we can do is give the people face-t-face meetings.

Jake Berry VP Public policy New futures Support There are thousands of people across the state who don't believe they can't attend meetings in person. The bill is totally optional. Communities have spent the last year figuring out the issues Rep Smith brought out. We have working people and elderly, etc. who cannot get here to make their voice heard in person. Giving them remote access would enable them to be heard. Our geographic and

demographic problems won't go away. If Q Notter: Do you see any value to in person meeting? Ans: Yes, but the improved access remote meetings would give is important too. Q Horrigan: What can be done for the technology challenged? Ans: Many people who are least able to afford the technology may be the same as those who can't attend in person. Some of the greatest challenges are in the broadband area and we are working on that. Q DiLorenzo: Do you think the expansion of technology in school will mitigate that problem? Ans: Maybe. It certainly is worthy of investigation. Once you open the door there are ways of bridging that gap.

Rep Jess Edwards Rockingham 4 Opposed As I read this bill it strikes me that we are conflating two different populations which we should keep separate. The public body and the public itself. We probably all agree we like transparency. Given we have experience with the technology, I think its great that bodies can broadcast to the public. Watching the General court during the pandemic showed me things about how difficult it is to have remote meetings compared to in person. A lot of interpersonal communication is non-verbal. Because of that, if you have no physical location the public can communicate by telephone and this is an inadequate way of communicating the public bodies awork to the public. If I were running a public meeting and felt there was a lot of public interest where the public might want to come to us, the opportunity to go remote could be very influential and the public could lose a big part of their ability to communicate. We already allow some flexibility to the public body member to participate remotely. I don't think we should have fully remote meetings.

*[Web Portal] Polly Campion NH Nurses Association Support This bill establishes requirements for remote meetings. Remote access was available pursuant to emergency order #12. This allowed the public to participate via video of telephone. It significantly increased the participation from the public. During the pandemic, Nurses have found it very difficult to participate in meetings due to workloads or health concerns., Removing the possibility of remote meetings has exacerbated these difficulties. I also submitted slightly different testimony on behalf of the Council on Aging. We have been unable to get an in-person quorum, which for us is 13 people, for a meeting since the expiration of the emergency orders. We completely support HB 1014. Q Horrigan: Has technology helped those who can't get to the State House? Ans: Absolutely. Q What should we do to make physical location more accessible. Q Smith: How did you submit testimony to us? Ans: Through the web portal. Colleagues of mine have submitted testimony that way. Q Wuelper :Was the Nurses Association able to meet before the pandemic? Ans: The Nurses association is not a public body and is not subject to RSA 91-A. Q: Perhaps I'm confused. Was she Council on Aging able to meet before the pandemic? Ans: Yes, in part because the body was smaller and they were reimbursed for mileage, which they can't do now. The pandemic just exacerbated those problems. ow, and the membership has expanded. For example we have a CEO from Coos county and you can imagine his difficulty in attending meetings in other parts of the state. I do understand your question though: you are asking what is the change. Getting people to serve on boards has been a problem right along because of the time required to travel to meetings and we've long desired a way to mitigate that concern and increase the numbers of people willing to serve and access to the public for those who are interested. Q: Has the Council on aging taken advantage of the provisions in current law for remote participation? Ans: Actually, it's the Commission on aging. We have. The problem for that particular body is the quorum requirement. We had 40-60 people participating but only 11 in the physical location.

Rep Andrus Self Opposed This bill leaves a lot to be desired. I do not do video for remote meetings. Everyone doesn't have the technology to access remote meetings. People are lazy and I'm one of them it is easy to sit at home and do a remote meeting. NH was built on public meetings and public bodies. When people run for an office, they know they have to go to meetings.

Tom Mullins City of Keene Support Listening to the testimony here is almost a disconnect. Public bodies in Nh cover a wide spectrum booth geographically and in size and membership. We need to give more people gthe opportunity to participate in government. Some local boards approached me about having remote meetings due to health concerns. I would be in favor of having a physical location, if nothing else for those who want to attend. I further advise you to require a free telephone access for remote participation. Q Chase: how did the remote telephone system work? Ans: we had an 800 number with a phone tree so people could be called in order. Q Horrigan: Did you have problems with the physical locations? Ans: Yes. We had to scramble to find locations where we could meet with physical distancing.

*Laurie Ortolano: RTKNH Support with Amendment We believe that the physical location is critical to a public meeting. The non-verbal communication obvious in a physical meeting can't be dismissed. A simple expression of discontent can mean a lot and would be lost in a remote meeting. When our local officials choose to meet via Zoom, they choose to turn the video off. That is wrong. Some board members are on social media during the meeting which they never could do if they had been physically present. I have handed out the final report of the

HB108 study committee which we used to develop our proposed amendment which you also have. There are a lot of suggested changes to this bill to make it workable. Telephonic communication really hurt me in a court case and when we met in person that changed.

Natch Greyes NHMA Support I haven't had the chance to review the amendment proposed by Right to Know NH, but it doesn't sound bad. The quorum requirement and a physical location needs to be addressed. Even under existing law, municipalities have been trying to figure out how to accommodate the public. we have no objection to the physical location but the quorum needs work. Q Chasse: How can that be done? Ans: I am not sure. The current law requires a quorum which, without further definition, means a majority of the members. There are emergency provisions, but they rarely apply.



Rep Kurt Wuelper

House Remote Testify

Judiciary Committee Testify List for Bill HB1014 on 2022-01-27

Support: 4 Oppose: 1 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

[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>
Huberman, Anne	Peterborough, NH Anne.Huberman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2022 3:23 PM
Salmon, Nancy	Peterborough, NH nansalmon@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2022 5:03 PM
Ulmer Dorsch, Karen	Sanbornton, NH karenbobd@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2022 7:29 PM
Kudlik, Cindy	Grafton, NH CindyKudlik@protonmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/22/2022 10:46 AM
Secord, William	Lebanon, NH wrsecord@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 11:07 AM
Hatcher, Phil	Dover, NH phil.hatcher@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 11:11 AM
O'Neill, Nan	SALISBURY, NH raptorko@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 1:28 PM
Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 2:21 PM
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 4:28 PM
Hamer, Heidi	Manchester, NH heidi.hamer@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 5:23 PM
Hamer, geoffrey	Manchester, NH geoffh87@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 5:28 PM
Hamer, Gary	Manchester, NH grhamer@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 5:28 PM
Almy, Susan	Lebanon, NH Susan.almy@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 9:33 PM

Manseau, Joline	Hollis, NH joline.manseau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 9:51 PM
Farnum, Ellen	Tamworth, NH ellenlynnfarnum@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:17 AM
Crandell-Glass, Jane	Cornish, NH bostonjane@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 9:42 AM
Cotton, Bev	Weare, NH bevcott@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 12:49 PM
Cutshall, Catherine	Bedford, NH vivadofamily@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 1:33 PM
Covert, Susan	Contoocook, NH scovert@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 2:39 PM
Crichton, Lucy	Concord, NH Lucycrichton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 2:41 PM
Lightfoot, Jean	Hopkinton, NH JnLightfoot@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:10 PM
Foley, Joseph	Epping, NH jmfoley48@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Lamprey River (Local) Advisory Committee	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:25 PM
Coon, Kate	Peterborough, NH kate2coon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:38 PM
Dinzeo, David	Dover, NH dinz00@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:48 PM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:53 PM
Gilman, Julie	Exeter, NH Julie.gilman@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Town of Exeter	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 4:16 PM
Neville, Betsey	Concord, NH betsey2003@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 4:38 PM
Vincent, Laura	Loudon, NH lvlauravincen5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 4:54 PM
Deschaine, Paul	Stratham, NH p.deschaine@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 5:41 PM
Oxenham, Lee	Plainfield, NH leeoxenham@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 6:20 PM
Ropp, Elizabeth	Manchester, NH arunareiki@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 6:40 PM

Field, Bryan	PETERBOROUGH, NH brysciguy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 6:43 PM
owens, Patricia	Litchfield, NH Pfowens2013@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 6:45 PM
Allen, Laurene	Merrimack, NH alarene@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 6:50 PM
FEDER, ROBERT	HOLLIS, NH ROBERTFEDER1@GMAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:06 PM
O'Neill, Faye	Amherst, NH nhfaye@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:12 PM
Salvatore, Barbara	Bedford, NH Bsandbs73@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:12 PM
Goldner, Wayne	Bedford, NH wlgoldner@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:13 PM
Schmidlein, Allison	Mont Vernon, NH aschmidlein@tiac.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:13 PM
Goldner, Laura	Bedford, NH lhgoldner@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:23 PM
Dillingham, Lisa	Strafford, NH lisa.dillingham@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:23 PM
Meyer, Abigail	Peterborough, NH abbymeyer@earthlink.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:23 PM
Anderson, Kathy	Hancock, NH hancock.andersons@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:27 PM
Zweighaft, Mary	Greenfield, NH charlieznh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:45 PM
Gelsey, Giana	Madbury, NH gagelsey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:47 PM
Dickler, Jeffrey	Rindge, NH gsgstriker@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:54 PM
Chase, Wendy	Rollinsford, NH wendy.chase@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:55 PM
Feder, Marsha	Hollis, NH marshafeder@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:55 PM
Rhoades, Melanie	DOVER, NH melanierhoades@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:10 PM

Shuel-Sargent, Pamela	Rindge, NH shueljls@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:11 PM
Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:14 PM
Warner, Kelly	Exeter, NH kellwarner@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:20 PM
BRYK, WILLIAM	Antrim, NH wmbryk@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/23/2022 8:21 PM
Briggs, Eleanor	Hancock, NH ebphoenix@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:26 PM
Demaine, Lisa	Dover, NH lmdemaine@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:26 PM
Lessard, Roger	Greenfield, NH mtking@pobox.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:27 PM
Field, Daniel	Fracestown, NH Danfield5@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:36 PM
Jones, Stephanie	Bedford, NH stephaniermjones@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:39 PM
Rhoades, Chuck	Dover, NH chuckrhoades@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:43 PM
Williams, Jennifer	Bedford, NH Jhwrow@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:52 PM
Beeson, Roberta	Hancock, NH roberta.beeson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:52 PM
Foster, Deb	Dunbarton, NH debhfoster@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 8:52 PM
Weber, Jill	Mont Vernon, NH jill@frajilfarms.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 9:09 PM
Raspiller, Cindy	Mont Vernon, NH raspicl@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 9:45 PM
Brown, Howard	Mont Vernon, NH hobro39@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 9:46 PM
Howland, Curtis	Manchester, NH howland@priss.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/23/2022 9:50 PM
Campbell, Leonard	Meredith, NH lsoup03@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 9:54 PM

Glassman, Barbara	Nashua, NH barbara.glassman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:21 AM
Leshner, Kamee	BEDFORD, NH verdkam@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:32 AM
Torpey, Jeanne	Concord, NH jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 6:53 AM
Berry, Jane	Bedford, NH Jebset@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 6:54 AM
Gordon, Margaret	Weare, NH Megordon98@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:11 AM
Field, Linda	Peterborough, NH lindafield9@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:19 AM
Rundell, Laura	Dover, NH laurarun45@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:23 AM
Foxx, Loren	Bedford, NH lofoxx@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:25 AM
Gordon, Laurie	Weare, NH lmgord23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:44 AM
Lucas, Janet	Campton, NH janluca1953@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:50 AM
Dargie, Paul	Milford, NH pauldargie@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:09 AM
Pimpare, Stephen	Manchester, NH stephen.pimpare@unh.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:16 AM
Spivack, Paul	Bedford, NH speevs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:27 AM
Carr, Judith	Hollis, NH Judycar@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:27 AM
thompson, julia	durham, NH maple371@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:31 AM
DiCicco, Harriet	Hancock, NH Hfckd1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:32 AM
Spence, Richard	Dover, NH rtssds2@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:33 AM
Henninger, Heidi	Dover, NH heidi.henninger@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:53 AM

Gerson, Deborah	Bedford, NH debgerson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:54 AM
Cote, Lois	Manchester, NH lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:54 AM
Meuse, David	Portsmouth, NH David.Meuse@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Rockingham 29	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:54 AM
Frederick, Marilyn	Bedford, NH marilyn-tony@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:56 AM
Lister, Charlotte	Chester, NH lister@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:09 AM
Munson, Deborah	Chester, NH djminnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:11 AM
Cevasco, Karin	Milford, NH Karin.Cevasco@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:28 AM
Bouchard, Donald	MANCHESTER, NH donaldjbouchard@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:36 AM
Hakken-Phillips, Mary	Hanover, NH mhp4nhrep@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:41 AM
Anderson, David	Hancock, NH hancock.andersons@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:50 AM
Domenico, William	Manchester, NH bill@resunltd4u.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 9:58 AM
Demark, Richard	Meredith, NH demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:01 AM
Mitchell, Karen	Mont Vernon, NH kmitchell5@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:09 AM
Remesch, Katherine	Hollis, NH katherinestebbins@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:13 AM
Feole, Danielle	Salem, NH feole.danielle@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:15 AM
Ewing, Louise	Antrim, NH louisejune04@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:28 AM
Friedman, Richard	Bedford, NH friedman946@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:31 AM
Seager, Nancy	Goffstown, NH nseager@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:33 AM

Cochrane, Eleanor	Hancock, NH cochraneeb@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:39 AM
Cochrane, Douglas	Hancock, NH cochranedouglas44@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:39 AM
Knowlton, Kandace	Derry, NH kandaceknowlton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:42 AM
Romanowicz, Eileen	Salem, NH Eromanowicz@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:47 AM
Mathur, Anita	Durham, NH anita_mathur@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:47 AM
QUISUMBING-KING, Cora	Dover, NH coraq@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:57 AM
Crocker, Richard	Meredith, NH richcrocker@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:58 AM
Erdman, Pamela	Hancock, NH Grammypam1937@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:58 AM
Ludt, Jeanne	Amherst, NH jludt50@aol.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:04 AM
Zajano, Emily	Exeter, NH emzajano@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:08 AM
Holtz, Anthony	Dover, NH holtzrundell@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:18 AM
Heuer, Linda	Chester, NH lheuer@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:22 AM
Dodge, Corinne	Derry, NH corinnedodge@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:30 AM
Warner, Garvin	WINDHAM, NH garvo@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:32 AM
Hagman, Tammi	Weare, NH TammiHagman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:02 PM
Day, Karen	Greenfield, NH riverqueen@pobox.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:14 PM
Flockhart, Eileen	Exeter, NH Hartflock@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:14 PM
Lenahan, Carol	Campton, NH peaseporridgehot@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:26 PM

ONEILL, Joseph	Amherst, NH oneill3@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:33 PM
SKIDMORE, CLARENCE	BROOKLINE, NH ashskidmore@charter.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 12:35 PM
Zaenglein, Barbara	AMHERST, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:42 PM
Zaenglein, Eric	AMHERST, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 12:48 PM
Reed, Sarah	Concord, NH stubbs.saraha@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 12:59 PM
Aronson, Laura	MANCHESTER, NH laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 1:12 PM
Wrubel, Emily	Hillsborough, NH ewrubel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 1:41 PM
Hoffmann, Lauren	Salem, NH lphoffmann@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 1:47 PM
Marsh, Amanda	Deering, NH amarsh_simon@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:07 PM
Donovan, Julie	BEDFORD, NH julie.donovan@juno.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:16 PM
Robertson Souter, Catherine	Windham, NH catsout@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:24 PM
Cauble, John	Bedford, NH mca4941@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:30 PM
Verschueren, James	Dover, NH jd.verschueren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:30 PM
Franciscovich, Pamela	Weare, NH frankids@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:36 PM
Corkery, Catherine	Concord, NH catherine.corkery@sierraclub.org	A Lobbyist	NH Sierra Club	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:49 PM
Pugh, BARBARA	Amherst, NH barbara.pugh@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 2:58 PM
Robbins, Annie	Sanbornville, NH anniemrobbins@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:17 PM
Blanchard, Sandra	Loudon, NH sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:20 PM

Cahill, Michael	Newmarket, NH michael.cahill@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:27 PM
Keegan, John	Boscawen, NH peoresnada@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:29 PM
Rettew, Annie	Concord, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:38 PM
Rand, Steven	Plymouth, NH rstevenrand@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:49 PM
Damon, Claudia	Concord, NH cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:56 PM
Hatch, Sally	Concord, NH SALLYHATCH@COMCAST.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 3:59 PM
Rasmussen, Elissa	Brookline, NH elissa@evanshatz.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:04 PM
Leavitt, Deborah	Dover, NH daleavitt77@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:07 PM
Leavitt, Richard	Dover, NH revlev79@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:09 PM
Willing, Maura	Concord, NH Maura.Willing@Comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:12 PM
DeFuria, Claudia	Salem, NH gregs999@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:38 PM
McDaniel, Marianne	Fracestown, NH marianne.mcdaniel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:42 PM
Kelble, Janice	Hooksett, NH jkreflection@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:56 PM
Davis, ELISSA	Meredith, NH lisa2mer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 5:03 PM
Kiley, David	Atkinson, NH dkileycpa@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 5:25 PM
chapman, kevin	marlborough, NH denoet103@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 5:32 PM
Wright, Jessica	Nashua, NH JessAJean@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 5:36 PM
Vincent-Piet, Patricia	Concord, NH ablewriter@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 6:14 PM

Dudra, Karen	Exeter, NH proffer.oblongs.0s@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 6:28 PM
Robinson, Ellis	Grantham, NH EllisMMRobinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 6:47 PM
Teden, Pat	Merrimack, NH tedenp@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:41 PM
Terry, Mary	Deering, NH bryter24@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:54 PM
Alphen, James H	Salem, NH jimalphen@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:09 PM
Beck, Jerry	Holderness, NH bentrimone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 8:29 PM
Gregg, Robin	Hancock, NH rgregg@pobox.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:11 PM
Pedersen, Michael	Nashua, NH pedersenusa@aim.com	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 32, Nashua Ward 5	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:15 PM
Wells, Ken	Andover, NH kenwells3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 9:53 PM
Desrosiers, Marie	Salem, NH marie.desrosiers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:18 PM
Vivado, Mauricio	Bedford, NH maumojo@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:32 PM
Moskun, Erin	Hollis, NH Erin@moskun.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:36 PM
Learner, Marilyn	Hollis, NH mzlearner@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:37 PM
Cross, John	Brookline, NH jc938272@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 10:40 PM
Wood, Zephan	Pembroke, NH zephanw@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 10:49 PM
Findley, Sally	Grantham, NH findley.se@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:03 PM
Campbell, Ashley	Hollis, NH ashbcampbell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 3:44 AM
Messner, Katherine	Hudson, NH kate.messner@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 5:16 AM

Mugica, Mildred	Hollis, NH mugicam@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:25 AM
Malsbenden, Kathleen	Newmarket, NH kmalsbenden@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:30 AM
Westlake, Jane	Center Barnstead, NH janewestlake57@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:33 AM
Haltbakk, Leslie	Merrimack, NH isoldmytreasures@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:39 AM
Baber, Kristine	Dover, NH kmbaber@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:44 AM
Hamilton, Melanie	Northwood, NH mhamilton5908@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:03 AM
Polychrones, Andrea	Bedford, NH Apolychrones@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:10 AM
Bracy, Sue	Dunbarton, NH Marysuebracy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:13 AM
Duquet, Stephen	Windham, NH stephenduquet@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:14 AM
Burnap, Linda	Wolfeboro, NH 54able@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:15 AM
Boose, Edwina	Center Ossipee, NH Boose.edwina@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:19 AM
Hill, Bonnie	South Sutton, NH hillbonnie@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:20 AM
Markus, Amy	Hancock, NH asmarkus@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:30 AM
Bockley, Wes	Hancock, NH asmarkus@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:31 AM
Lewis, Elizabeth	Nashua, NH ecop.lewis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:38 AM
Cook, Barbara	Canterbury, NH Bdc7@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:44 AM
Davis, NH LAKES, Michelle	Concord, NH mdavis@nhlakes.org	A Lobbyist	NH LAKES	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:47 AM
Zakon-Anderson, Elizabeth	Hancock, NH zakon-anderson@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:55 AM

Erickson, Amy	Wolfeboro, NH ableacres@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:01 AM
Piche, Kelly	Hollis, NH kellydpiche@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:13 AM
Osman, David	Gilford, NH davidosman68@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:43 AM
Bryant, Marlise	Hollis, NH marlisehome@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:57 AM
Bryant, Michael	Hollis, NH bryantmike322@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:58 AM
Palm, Allison	Nashua, NH minister@uunashua.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:00 AM
Earle, Theresa	Hancock, NH gramazon@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:02 AM
LAFORME, PATRICIA	EAST KINGSTON, NH PLAFORME@COMCAST.NET	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:09 AM
Horton, Billy	Hancock, NH Bilhor@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:17 AM
Wazir, Safiya	Concord, NH S.wazir@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself and my constituents	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:52 AM
Moody, Katie	Newington, NH ktfmoody@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:07 AM
Raff, Alan	Manchester, NH araff9@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:13 AM
Clark, Denise	Milford, NH denise.m.clark03055@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:19 AM
Stehno, Joseph	Weare, NH stehno@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:19 AM
Keeler, Margaret	New London, NH peg5keeler@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:32 AM
DeMark, Harriet	Meredith, NH Demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:39 AM
Schaefer, Arley	Meredith, NH Demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:39 AM
Foley, Mary Ellen	Manchester, NH mefrsm@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:40 AM

MacInnes, Gail	Francestown, NH Scobiefarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:44 AM
Straiton, Marie	Pembroke, NH m.straiton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:54 AM
Maddocks, William	Amherst, NH wmaddocks@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:59 AM
Levasseur, Donna	Hollis, NH westwind1@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/25/2022 12:00 PM
LaBombard, Jone	Hollis, NH jlabombard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:01 PM
Duran, Carrie	WOLFEBORO, NH carriemartinduran@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:10 PM
Griffin, Julia	Hanover, NH julia.griffin@hanovernh.org	A Member of the Public	Town of Hanover	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:17 PM
Owen, Jeffrey	Hollis, NH email.jeff.owen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:22 PM
Laurenitis, Loretta	Peterborough, NH lbonlaur@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:30 PM
Jonas, Susannah	Francestown, NH Suejonas@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:38 PM
Spencer, Emily	Bedford, NH emilyloucele@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:40 PM
Isaak, Jim	Bedford, NH cs2010@JimIsaak.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 12:55 PM
Dolkart, Vivian	Grantham, NH viviandolkart@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:06 PM
nelson, carol	peterborough, NH peterboro603@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:08 PM
Walker, April	Greenville, NH april@morefrogs.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:19 PM
Shamel, Susan	Hillsborough, NH Susanshamel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:24 PM
Clifford, Virginia	Candia, NH vstmartin@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:27 PM
Duck, Elizabeth	Auburn, NH elizabethduck@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:34 PM

Landry, Sara	Nashua, NH blandry603@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:46 PM
Jonas, David	Francestown, NH davjonas@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:57 PM
Tentarelli, Liz	Newbury, NH LWV@kenliz.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:58 PM
Null, Corinne	Bedford, NH c.null@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 1:58 PM
Lacroix, Marc	Concord, NH Malacroix@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 2:11 PM
Parmele, Victoria	Northwood, NH victoria.willow7@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 2:19 PM
Schnakenberg, Gary	FRANCESTOWN, NH gschnak1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 2:22 PM
Bushueff, Catherine	Sunapee, NH agawamdesigns@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 2:31 PM
Hurley, Stephanie	Peterborough, NH stephurley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 2:55 PM
Prince, Sonia	Nashua, NH ssprince1@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 3:01 PM
Tremblay, RMAC Chair, Michele L.	Penacook, NH mlt@naturesource.net	A Member of the Public	Rivers Management Advisory Committee	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 3:40 PM
Selig, Loren	DURHAM, NH zltselig@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 3:41 PM
Lynch, Chrisinda	Concord, NH cmmelynch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 4:08 PM
Martin, Patricia A	Rindge, NH pmartin2894@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 4:12 PM
Janvrin, Jason	Seabrook, NH ikebub@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/25/2022 4:40 PM
Brenton, Anne	Atkinson, NH anne.berg1@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 4:47 PM
Howell, Bridget	Francestown, NH Bkh51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 5:10 PM
Bishop, Lorraine	Peterborough, NH macduffcalvin@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 5:43 PM

Sinclair, Jill	Rochester, NH rsinky@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 6:12 PM
Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 6:28 PM
Davidson, Stuart	Hollis, NH studavidso@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 6:52 PM
Sampson, Deborah	Bennington, NH deborahann.sampson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 7:45 PM
Rardin, Laurie	COncord, NH rardins@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:46 PM
Hamblet, Joan	Portsmouth, NH jhamblet4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 8:54 PM
Raven, Mary Beth	Merrimack, NH marybeth.raven@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:29 PM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 9:34 PM
Thilagar, Vani	Hollis, NH v_thilagar@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:08 PM
Petrovito, Janet	Francestown, NH Janpietrovito@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:46 PM
Casino, Joanne	Concord, NH joannecasino@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:51 PM
Dontonville, Roger	Enfield, NH rdontonville@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 10:57 PM
Schuett, Dianne	Pembroke, NH dianne.schuett@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Merr. Dist. 20	Support	No	No	1/25/2022 11:39 PM
Cone, Marsha	Hollis, NH marsha.cone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 8:42 AM
Telerski, Rep. Laura	Nashua, NH Laura.Telerski@Leg.State.NH.US	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:06 AM
kwasnik, joseph	concord, NH jkwasnik25@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:09 AM
Hunnewell, Anne	Holderness, NH ahunne@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:15 AM
Hunnewell, Richard	Holderness, NH hunnewell.richard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:15 AM

Koch, Laurie	Concord, NH kochlj@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:37 AM
Joyce, Ellen	Meriden, NH ejoyce1961@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:43 AM
Campbell, Karen	Epsom, NH klynncampbell50@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:46 AM
Anastasia, Patricia	Londonderry, NH patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:52 AM
Root, Diane	West Lebanon, NH DRootTRRM@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:57 AM
Bletzer, Hallina	Hampton, NH juicygirl188@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:00 AM
Fraysse, Michael	Epsom, NH mikefraysse@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:08 AM
Henrichon, Margaret	Bedford, NH mhenrichon@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:09 AM
Bowles, Margaret	Lyme, NH mcb2885@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:16 AM
Mattlage, Linda	Concord, NH L.mattlage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:37 AM
DePuy, Charles	Lebanon, NH c.depuy@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:11 AM
Geary, Fiona	Northwood, NH fionamaegeary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:12 AM
Reardon, Donna	Concord, NH bugs42953@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:24 AM
Hirai, Barbara	Lebanon, NH BPHirai@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:28 AM
Petrovito, James	Francestown, NH j-jpietrovito@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:52 AM
Beffa-Negrini, Patricia	Nelson, NH pbeffa@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 12:06 PM
Doherty, David	Pembroke, NH ddoherty0845@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 12:11 PM
McLeod, Kenna	Windham, NH kennamcleod@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 12:13 PM

Aman, Katie	Hanover, NH kathryn.aman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 12:22 PM
Brown, Jean	HANOVER, NH jean.e.brown1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 12:28 PM
Melvin, Daniel	Auburn, NH DanMelvin@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/26/2022 1:03 PM
Vail, Suzanne	Nashua, NH Suzanne.vail@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Hillsborough County 30	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 1:29 PM
Lobdell, Sara	Keene, NH slobdell@antioch.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 1:48 PM
Clough, Rosemary T	Hollis, NH movingspirit1@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 1:58 PM
Whitney, Patricia	DOVER, NH pjwhitney8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 2:09 PM
bothmer, Sandra	Brookline, NH sbothmer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 2:42 PM
Campion, Polly	Etna, NH pollykcampion@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 2:57 PM
Richman, Susan and	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 3:47 PM
Mangels, Allison	Amherst, NH allisonmangels@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 4:07 PM
Smith, Carla	Fremont, NH tsmith1992@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 4:57 PM
GRIER, CYBELE	rye, NH cybelegrier@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 5:40 PM
MITCHELL, SUSAN	BRENTWOOD, NH sjmitch34@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 5:47 PM
Donnelly, Ryan	Hudson, NH rdonnelly@gsil.org	A Member of the Public	Granite State Independent Living	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 5:57 PM
Brackett, Glenn	Hooksett, NH communications@nhaficio.org	A Lobbyist	NH AFL-CIO	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 6:51 PM
Kuemmerle, Nancy	Enfield, NH nkuemmerle@une.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 7:32 PM
Webster, Norma	Hillsborough,, NH, NH nwebster322@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 7:54 PM

Roman, Valerie	Windham, NH Vroman@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 8:16 PM
Berry, Jake	Concord, NH jberry@new-futures.org	A Lobbyist	New Futures	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 8:26 PM
Jernstedt, Margaret	Hanover, NH Margaret.Jernstedt@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 8:32 PM
Davis, Greg	Salem, NH glospreys@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 8:40 PM
Raven, Mary	Merrimack, NH marybeth.raven@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:01 PM
Duckworth, Mark	MERRIMACK, NH mrducky@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	None	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:15 PM
Gage, Katharine	Windham, NH katharine.gage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:16 PM
Trottier, Erin	Fracestown, NH phelps.e.erin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:21 PM
See, Alvin	Loudon, NH absee@4liberty.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/26/2022 9:30 PM
Gage, John	Windham, NH jhgage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:38 PM
Cappiello, Mary Ann	Stratham, NH cappiellomaryann@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:50 PM
McDonough, Natalie	Goffstown, NH nmcdonoughrsm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 9:58 PM
Currier, Dorothy	Concord, NH dorocurr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:23 PM
Mawson, Julia Steed	Pelham, NH islandview999@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 10:35 PM
Jones, Jennifer	Brentwood, NH jennjones123@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:46 PM
Jones, Nate	Brentwood, NH Nate_jones@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 11:58 PM
Wiggins, Heather	Merrimack, NH Heathermb769@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 5:16 AM
Heider, Kathryn	Fracestown, NH Katygrowheider@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 5:41 AM

Ellermann, Maureen	Concord, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 7:31 AM
Keane, Adrienne	Pelham, NH Akeane0625@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 7:37 AM
Dewey, Karen	NEWPORT, NH pkdewey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:00 AM
Douville, Linda	Grantham, NH Lmdanp@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:07 AM
BRUNO, BONNIE	HOLLIS, NH BONNIE.BRUNO@OUTLOOK.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:09 AM
Hoey, Kathleen	Manchester, NH kmhoey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:09 AM
Desmarais, Doreen	Northwood, NH doreend@netzero.net	A Member of the Public	Coalition for Open Democracy	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:12 AM
Bundy, Linda Olson	Antrim, NH n_bundy@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 8:36 AM
Howard, Raymond	Alton, NH brhowardjr@yahoo.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/27/2022 8:37 AM
Dabrowski, Sally	Merrimack, NH sallyadabrowski@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:02 AM
Osborne, Jason	Auburn, NH houserepoffice@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/27/2022 9:03 AM
Perrotta, Delores	Raymond, NH dperrotta15@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:03 AM
DiNapoli, Pamela	Manchester, NH ppdn@unh.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:12 AM
Wilsher, Lisa	Fracestown, NH mermaidnine@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:14 AM
Dunham, Bonnie	Merrimack, NH Bsdunham12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:20 AM
Kinney, Rev. Dr. Gail	Canaan, NH gailhrdi@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:31 AM
Weddle, Joan	Amherst, NH weddle.joan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:34 AM
Murphy, Hon. Nancy A	Merrimack, NH murphy.nancya@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:34 AM

Sheets, Peggy	Hollis, NH Pegsheets@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:36 AM
McCormick, Kristen	Stoddard, NH kristenk2911@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:37 AM
Paschell, Susan	Bow, NH spaschell@dupontgroup.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:45 AM
Moran, Madonna	Manchester, NH Madonnamorán@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 9:56 AM
Urffer, Kathy	Brattleboro, VT kurffer@ctriver.org	A Lobbyist	Connecticut River Conservancy	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 10:04 AM
Allen, Daniel	Merrimack, NH Danielrallen55@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 10:17 AM
Mohan, Kim	Meredith, NH kimmohan@nhnpa.net	A Member of the Public	self	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 10:20 AM
Billingham, Carla	Salem, NH billingham2@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 10:29 AM
Stoddard, Kristine	Bow, NH kstoddard@bistatepca.org	A Lobbyist	Bi-State Primary Care Association	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 10:34 AM
Perry, Bob	Strafford, NH perry4nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 11:27 AM
Waterman, Raymond	Merrimack, NH prwaterman@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 11:44 AM
Waterman, Patricia	Merrimack, NH prwaterman@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 11:46 AM
Schweiker, Roy	Concord, NH royswkr@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/27/2022 12:28 PM
Laker-Phelps, Gail	Chichester, NH lpsart@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 12:48 PM
Stevens, Holly	Concord, NH hstevens@naminh.org	A Lobbyist	NAMI New Hampshire	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 1:31 PM
Stinson, Benjamin	Concord, NH benrkstinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 11:28 PM

HB1014 Testimony

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Laura Colquhoun and I live in Nashua NH. I am writing to support HB1014 with amended language to include maintaining a meeting physical location. Remote participation through hybrid meetings has increased public access and participation and this is a good thing. I embrace the public hybrid accessibility while maintaining the need for the public body to have a physical location with a defined quorum of the board.

Eliminating a physical location assumes that any interested citizen has access to the technology to participate in the meeting. This is not always the case. Additionally, a physical location allows the elected body to engage in face-to-face, verbal and non-verbal forms of communication that enhance the public's understanding of the business conducted and allows members of the public to personally address their officials. This is essential for public meetings.

On November 1, 2021, a final report was issued from the committee to review authorizing governing bodies of municipalities to hold virtual meetings and study remote access to meetings under RSA 91-A. Much of amended language for this bill was taken from the recommendations of this committee.

The amended language would include:

- a) *a physical location must be provided and a quorum of the board as defined by the public body must be present.*
- b) *public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in this chapter. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.*
- c) *Members of the public body participating remotely must identify that they are attending alone or identify who is with them at the meeting.*
- d) *As current law requires, remote participants must "be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting and shall be audible or otherwise discernible to the public in attendance at the meeting's location."*
- e) *When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.*

Please support HB1014 with the amended language.

Very truly yours,
Laura Colquhoun
30 Greenwood Dr
Nashua, NH 03062

Thank you for receiving my testimony today.

I write in strong support of HB1014. Remote access to meetings, hearings, and testimony are essential to ensure the voices of all Granite Staters are equally heard. As a Christian minister, one of the tenants of my faith is to love my neighbor. We cannot fully love our neighbors if their voices are not equally represented in our halls of government. In this chapter of Covid-19 it is simply not safe for many immune compromised, and disabled constituents (and their care givers) to attend hearings, or meetings in person. Parents of school-aged children are dealing regularly with exposures, and illness. They deserve a chance to be heard in person.

The Council of Churches is comprised of hundreds of congregations across the state. The vast majority of our congregations continue to offer remote access to Sunday worship, essential meetings, and more. We are communities of faith rooted in the idea that incarnation, being physically gathered together, is at the very heart of our faith. However, even still we know that right now that is simply not possible in the ways it has been in the past. Allowing a remote option ensures all of us are able to be at the table though we are physically distant from one another. Surely the legislature wants this as well?

We ask you to move HB1014 forward with a vote of Ought to Pass. Please do not hesitate if there is any additional information I can provide for you, or you would like to speak with one of our denominational leaders.

With gratitude,

HB1014 Testimony

Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath

--

Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath

Pronouns: she/her/hers

Executive Director

New Hampshire Council of Churches

PO Box 1087

Concord, NH 03302

Phone (call or text): (603) 460-5447

Website: www.nhchurches.org

Email: heidi@nhchurches.org

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:53:06 AM
From: [Annie Rettew](#)
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 3:40:26 PM
To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)
Subject: In favor of HB 1014
Importance: Normal

Please allow remote participation in hearings for the health and safety of your constituents. Everyone is doing it--we zoom meetings, school, lessons, rehearsals. It makes sense and is kind to those who are unable to attend.

Thank you.

Annie

Annie Rettew, RN
603-651-7000

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:50:26 AM

From: [Bob Perry](#)

Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 4:36:36 PM

To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)

Subject: HB 1014

Importance: Normal

Attachments: [HB 1014 modified to Judicial Committee 1.27.22.docx](#);

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:53:05 AM
From: [Claudia Damon](#)
Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:03:31 PM
To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)
Subject: NH Voter supports HB 1014
Importance: Normal

Dear House Judiciary Committee,

It is beyond me why remote participation in the business of the House is not allowed. The Supreme Court has ruled it is legal. At this time you have before you HB 1014 which would allow 21st Century ways of electeds to represent their constituents if unable to physically attend hearings and meetings. It is a good thing when electeds can represent their constituents, whatever party they belong to.

The best solutions to problems come from a full discussion among electeds of different parties, given that is the population we have in NH--a population of various parties.

Why put unnecessary roadblocks in the way of participatory democracy?

Thank you for your work
Claudia Damon

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46:45 AM
From: [Holly Stevens](#)
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 1:47:20 PM
To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)
Subject: HB 1014
Importance: Normal

Dear House Judiciary Committee Members:

A NAMI New Hampshire advocate asked me to send the following testimony to you on her behalf for your review as you consider HB 1014.

I am representing myself as a Public Policy advocate for people with mental illness. I have been giving remote testimonials last year and have also testified inside the State House. I appreciate that Lawmakers take the time to listen to their Constituents. That is how a Democracy should work. The Public should have a say in what is important to them regarding the budget and other important bills.

Testifying remotely is just as important as in person. I look forward to the day when we can be back in person, however listening to your Constituents is a great way to bring about change. Not knowing what is important to the very people who elected you and stopping remote testimonials would be a grave mistake.

I was happy to learn about the ability to testify remotely in 2020, because there were several issues that i spoke to. I appreciate every opportunity i can to testify. 2020 was a difficult year for many and Fall/ Winter 2021 isn't a whole lot better. It is helpful for me to tell the Government what i think would help people with mental illness. Knowing that the Government wants to hear me out is true Decromacy that our Founding Fathers built this Country on.

If their no remote access, people who we elected would be able to make up their own minds disregarding the Public's opinion.

Please continue remote access so we can come together as the State of NH can do what it does best - supporteach other.

Thank you,

Karen Trudel

603-494-2726

tktrudell@gmail.com

Holly A. Stevens, Esq.
Director of Public Policy
Office:(603) 225-5359 ext. 325



New Hampshire

85 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

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Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:53:07 AM

From: [JEANNE LUDT](#)

Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 9:40:12 AM

To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)

Subject: Please support HB 1014

Importance: Normal

Remote access to public meetings has proven to be very effective while navigating the pandemic. It makes sense to allow public meetings to be held remotely to allow those who are ill, handicapped or out of town to participate. Thanks.

Jeanne Ludt
3 School St
Amherst, NH 03031

Sent from my iPhone

President

Wendy Piper
Grafton County Commissioner

Vice President

Tom Tombarello
Rockingham County Commissioner

At Large Member

Toni Pappas
Hillsborough County Commissioner

At Large Member

Cathy Stacey
Rockingham County Register of Deeds



Association of Counties

**46 Donovan Street, Suite 2
Concord, NH 03301**

**(603) 224-9222
(603) 224-8312 (fax)**

www.nhcounties.org

Immediate Past President

Chuck Weed
Cheshire County Commissioner

Treasurer

Suzanne Collins
Coos County Treasurer

Bylaws Chair

Chris Coates
Cheshire County Administrator

January 24, 2022

The Honorable Edward Gordon
Chair
House Judiciary
State House
Concord, NH 03031


Chairman Gordon and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

The NH Association of Counties would like to register its support for HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

This bill would allow members of a public body participating virtually to count towards the quorum for a public meeting. The NHAC has an executive board of 50 members and over 15 affiliates and subcommittees that meet and travel from across the state. Having a physical quorum was challenging even before the pandemic and has proven even more challenging since the remote option has gone away. The ability to meet virtually allowed the association to conduct our business efficiently and effectively. At county government level, the efficiencies that a remote option created were impactful, especially for counties in the north and western part of the state, most importantly reducing travel time and decreasing mileage reimbursement.

The Association asks for your support for HB 1014. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our Executive Director, Kate Horgan at khorgan@dupontgroup.com.

Sincerely,


Wendy Piper
President
NH Association of Counties

Archived: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 11:00:18 AM
From: [Laura Colquhoun](#)
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 1:33:52 PM
To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)
Subject: In support of HB1014 with amended language
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Laura Colquhoun and I live in Nashua NH. I am writing to support HB1014 with amended language to include maintaining a meeting physical location. Remote participation through hybrid meetings has increased public access and participation and this is a good thing. I embrace the public hybrid accessibility while maintaining the need for the public body to have a physical location with a defined quorum of the board.

Eliminating a physical location assumes that any interested citizen has access to the technology to participate in the meeting. This is not always the case. Additionally, a physical location allows the elected body to engage in face-to-face, verbal and non-verbal forms of communication that enhance the public's understanding of the business conducted and allows members of the public to personally address their officials. This is essential for public meetings.

On November 1, 2021, a final report was issued from the committee to review authorizing governing bodies of municipalities to hold virtual meetings and study remote access to meetings under RSA 91-A. Much of amended language for this bill was taken from the recommendations of this committee.

The amended language would include:

- a) a physical location must be provided and a quorum of the board as defined by the public body must be present.*
- b) public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in this chapter. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.*
- c) Members of the public body participating remotely must identify that they are attending alone or identify who is with them at the meeting.*
- d) As current law requires, remote participants must "be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting and shall be audible or otherwise discernible to the public in attendance at the meeting's location."*
- e) When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.*

Please support HB1014 with the amended language.

Very truly yours,

Laura Colquhoun
30 Greenwood Dr
Nashua, NH 03062

-

✓
HB1014 – Allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

HB1014

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Laurie Ortolano from Nashua. I am Vice President for RTKNH and RTKNH supports HB1014 with amended language to maintain a physical location. Remote participation through hybrid meetings has increased public access and public participation. This is a good thing. We embrace the public hybrid accessibility while maintaining the need for the public body to have a physical location with a defined quorum of the board.

Eliminating a physical location assumes that any interested citizen has access to the technology to participate in the meeting. This is not always the case. Additionally, a physical location allows the elected body to engage in face-to-face, verbal and non-verbal forms of communication that enhance the public's understanding of the business conducted and allows members of the public to personally address their officials. This is essential for public meetings.

On November 1, 2021, a final report (Final Report of the Committee to Review Authorizing Governing Bodies of Municipalities to Hold Virtual Meetings and Study Remote Access to Meetings Under RSA 91-A:HB 108, Chapter 163, Laws of 2021) was issued from the committee to review authorizing governing bodies of municipalities to hold virtual meetings and study remote access to meetings under RSA 91-A. Much of amended language for this bill was taken from the recommendations of this committee.

The amended language would include:

- a) *a physical location must be provided and a quorum of the board as defined by the public body must be present.*
- b) *public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in the required posting. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.*
- c) *Members of the public body participating remotely must identify that they are in attendance alone or identify who is with them at the meeting.*
- d) *As current law requires, remote participants must "be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location."*
- e) *When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.*

Please support HB1014 with the attached amended language.

Sincerely,
Laurie Ortolano
41 Berkeley St.
Nashua, NH
603-930-2853

HB1014 – Allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

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

1 Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Meetings Open to the Public. Amend RSA 91-A:2, III to read as follows:

III. A public body may, but is not required to, allow one or more members of the body to participate in a meeting by electronic or other means of communication for the benefit of the public and the governing body, subject to the provisions of this paragraph.

(a) A member of the public body may participate in a meeting other than by attendance in person at the location of the meeting only when such attendance is not reasonably practical. Any reason that such attendance is not reasonably practical shall be stated in the minutes of the meeting.

(b) Except in an emergency, a quorum of the public body shall be physically present at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting. For purposes of this subparagraph, an "emergency" means that immediate action is imperative and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman or presiding officer of the public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be included in the minutes of the meeting.

~~(a) A physical location is not required for any meeting, provided the meeting complies with the provisions of this paragraph.~~

(c) public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in the required posting. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.

(d) Each member participating electronically or otherwise [must] in a meeting required to be open to the public shall be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting, and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location. Any member participating in such fashion shall identify the location from which the person is participating and the persons present in the location from which the member is participating. No meeting shall be conducted by electronic mail or any other form of communication, including an online chat function, that does not permit the public to hear, read, or otherwise discern meeting discussion contemporaneously at the meeting location specified in the meeting notice.

(e) Any meeting held pursuant to the terms of this paragraph shall comply with all of the requirements of this chapter relating to public meetings, and shall not circumvent the spirit and purpose of this chapter as expressed in RSA 91-A:1.

(f) A member participating in a meeting by the means described in this paragraph is deemed to be present at the meeting for purposes of voting. All votes taken during such a meeting shall be by roll call vote.

(g) When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.

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

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:53:07 AM
From: Leonard Campbell
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 10:03:09 PM
To: ~House Judiciary Committee
Subject: I Support HB1014
Importance: Normal

Hon Representatives,

I Support HB1014.

NH prides itself for its participatory government.

When the NH Constitution was written, horses were used to get to the State House. That was the normal method of getting to a meeting.

Today meeting electronically is a normal and very possible way of meeting. I'm responding to this bill and submitting my testimony electronically.

Which continues the long tradition of NH participatory government.

Please support HB1014 so that "all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good."

Respectfully,

Len
Leonard Campbell

Meredith, NH

603-455-1105

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46:43 AM

From: [Michael Yakubovich](#)

Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 2:29:40 PM

To: ~House Judiciary Committee

Subject: opposition to HB1014: allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

Importance: Normal

Dear committee members,

This bill doesn't seem to be thoroughly thought through.
Even the title is an oxymoron!

A "virtual" meeting can not be "public" by definition. There is always a gatekeeper in the virtual meeting (Zoom) environment. I speak as a computer engineer.

How can we guarantee the operator of the system, or the manager in charge be trusted?
Anyone attempting to connect can be muted, kicked off & removed.

Shutting off the public, the dissenters, the people trying to speak truth to power is opposite of what American values are about. Freedom of speech is the top amendment for a reason.

Please vote to ITL this HB #1014.

Best regards,

Rep. Michael Yakubovich

Executive Departments and Administration

District Merrimack 24, Hooksett

tel: 259-1516

HB1014



advocate • educate • collaborate
to improve the health and wellness of all Granite Staters

January 27, 2022

The Honorable Edward Gordon, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 208
33 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Futures' support for HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

Dear Representative Gordon and Honorable Members of the Committee,

New Futures appreciates the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all New Hampshire residents. To advance responsible, effective and inclusive public health policy, New Futures works with individuals and organizations throughout the state to help them engage in the legislative process.

New Futures stands in strong support of HB 1014, as it proposes to increase access to public meetings by allowing meetings to be held virtually. As you Representatives know too well, COVID-19 has disrupted public processes in many ways, making it difficult at times for state and local committees and boards to meet safely in person. To this day, with COVID still raging throughout New Hampshire, many members of the public are unable to attend public hearings and meetings without risking their own health or the health of their families, friends and communities. The use of videoconferencing technology, like Zoom, is critical during these challenging times not only to facilitating public meetings and hearings, but to allowing individual residents and advocates to make their voices heard.

With any luck, the COVID-19 pandemic will soon come to an end, but the obstacles prohibiting many individuals from attending and participating in public meetings will not. Long before COVID-19, many Granite Staters faced geographic, physical, economic or other challenges to accessing public meetings. Many working individuals, young parents, or others facing physical, medical or behavioral health challenges, among others, struggle to secure the time, transportation or other arrangements necessary to attend and make their voices heard at public meetings. Many of these individuals represent demographic groups – young professionals, working families, seniors, individuals with disabilities and others – that are most directly impacted by the policy decisions made by our public bodies. Their voices and perspectives are critical to policy discussions, yet they are unable to take part in a direct and meaningful way.

As proposed, HB 1014 would help to address these concerns by allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. These would ease access for office holders and increase engagement opportunities for the public. With an aging population that is growing more diverse culturally and economically, this promises to bring in important and underrepresented perspectives, and to strengthen New Hampshire's public processes.

For these reasons, New Futures urges the Committee to vote HB 1014 Ought to Pass. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jake Berry".

Jake Berry
Vice President of Policy
New Futures

HB1014 – Allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

HB1014

To the Honorable Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Laurie Ortolano from Nashua. I am Vice President for RTKNH and RTKNH supports HB1014 with amended language to maintain a physical location. Remote participation through hybrid meetings has increased public access and public participation. This is a good thing. We embrace the public hybrid accessibility while maintaining the need for the public body to have a physical location with a defined quorum of the board.

Eliminating a physical location assumes that any interested citizen has access to the technology to participate in the meeting. This is not always the case. Additionally, a physical location allows the elected body to engage in face-to-face, verbal and non-verbal forms of communication that enhance the public's understanding of the business conducted and allows members of the public to personally address their officials. This is essential for public meetings.

On November 1, 2021, a final report (Final Report of the Committee to Review Authorizing Governing Bodies of Municipalities to Hold Virtual Meetings and Study Remote Access to Meetings Under RSA 91-A:HB 108, Chapter 163, Laws of 2021) was issued from the committee to review authorizing governing bodies of municipalities to hold virtual meetings and study remote access to meetings under RSA 91-A. Much of amended language for this bill was taken from the recommendations of this committee.

The amended language would include:

- a) *a physical location must be provide and a quorum of the board as defined by the public body must be present.*
- b) *public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in the required posting. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.*
- c) *Members of the public body participating remotely must identify that they are in attending alone or identify who is with them at the meeting.*
- d) *As current law requires, remote participants must "be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location."*
- e) *When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.*

Please support HB1014 with the attached amended language.

Sincerely,
Laurie Ortolano
41 Berkeley St.
Nashua, NH
603-930-2853

HB1014 – Allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

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

1 Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Meetings Open to the Public. Amend RSA 91-A:2, III to read as follows:

III. A public body may, but is not required to, allow one or more members of the body to participate in a meeting by electronic or other means of communication for the benefit of the public and the governing body, subject to the provisions of this paragraph.

(a) A member of the public body may participate in a meeting other than by attendance in person at the location of the meeting only when such attendance is not reasonably practical. Any reason that such attendance is not reasonably practical shall be stated in the minutes of the meeting.

(b) Except in an emergency, a quorum of the public body shall be physically present at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting. For purposes of this subparagraph, an "emergency" means that immediate action is imperative and the physical presence of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman or presiding officer of the public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be included in the minutes of the meeting.

~~(a) A physical location is not required for any meeting, provided the meeting complies with the provisions of this paragraph.~~

(c) public notice of the meeting, with all information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be given as provided in the required posting. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.

(d) Each member participating electronically or otherwise ~~[must]~~ in a meeting required to be open to the public shall be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting, and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location. Any member participating in such fashion shall identify the location from which the person is participating and the persons present in the location from which the member is participating. No meeting shall be conducted by electronic mail or any other form of communication, including an online chat function, that does not permit the public to hear, read, or otherwise discern meeting discussion contemporaneously at the meeting location specified in the meeting notice.

(e) Any meeting held pursuant to the terms of this paragraph shall comply with all of the requirements of this chapter relating to public meetings, and shall not circumvent the spirit and purpose of this chapter as expressed in RSA 91-A:1.

(f) A member participating in a meeting by the means described in this paragraph is deemed to be present at the meeting for purposes of voting. All votes taken during such a meeting shall be by roll call vote.

(g) When community input is accepted, members of the public in attendance at the physical location will be given priority over remote participants.

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

HB1014
DRTOLANO



State of New Hampshire

GENERAL COURT

CONCORD

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 1, 2021

TO: Honorable Sherman A. Packard, Speaker of the House
Honorable Chuck Morse, President of the Senate
Honorable Paul C. Smith, House Clerk
Honorable Tammy L. Wright, Senate Clerk
Honorable Chris Sununu, Governor
Michael York, State Librarian

FROM: Representative Kurt Wuelper, Chairman

SUBJECT: Final Report of the Committee to Review Authorizing Governing Bodies of Municipalities to Hold Virtual Meetings and Study Remote Access to Meetings Under RSA 91-A.
HB 108, Chapter 163, Laws of 2021

Pursuant to HB 108, Chapter 163, Laws of 2021, enclosed please find the Final Report of the Committee to Review Authorizing Governing Bodies of Municipalities to Hold Virtual Meetings and Study Remote Access to Meetings Under RSA 91-A.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I would like to thank those members of the committee who were instrumental in this study. I would also like to acknowledge all those who testified before the committee and assisted the committee in our study.

Enclosures

cc: Members of the Committee

FINAL REPORT

Committee to Review Authorizing Governing Bodies of Municipalities to Hold Virtual Meetings and Study Remote Access to Meetings Under RSA 91-A

HB 108, Chapter 163, Laws of 2021

November 1, 2021

Representative Kurt Wuelper, Chair
Representative Bob Greene, Clerk
Representative Jordan Ulery
Senator Reginal Birdsell
Senator Kevin Cavanaugh

Commission Charge and Study Purpose:

163:5: The committee shall review authorizing governing bodies of municipalities to hold virtual meetings and to study remote access to meetings under RSA 91-A.

Process and Procedures:

The committee organized on September 20, 2021 and elected Representative Kurt Wuelper Chair. The Chair appointed Representative Bob Greene Clerk.

The committee met four times throughout the study period. The minutes of each meeting are attached.

Findings and Recommendations:

With the backdrop of the recent experiences holding remote meetings during the pandemic and the dramatic increase in public participation at those meetings, the public and many public bodies strongly favor them. While increased public participation is a very good thing, we recognize that RSA91-A, governing public body meetings, deals primarily with the public body's conduct and responsibilities and not with public participation, which is left to the local body to control.

Our tasking speaks solely to "municipal governing bodies," but RSA 91-A speaks to all public bodies. We decided to consider the rules for all public bodies and avoid the complications of having to define and separate the "municipal governing body" from all other public bodies. Also, since the extent and conditions of public participation is left to those local bodies, we thought that principle should govern our recommendations.

The primary question about remote meetings is: "Is there any need for a physical location at all?" Without any such requirement, anyone could set up and control a totally remote meeting

from any location. We unanimously agreed a physical location must remain required. We believe citizens should always have a physical place where they can observe their public servants conducting their business and speak to those chosen authorities face-to-face. This thought was buttressed by the consideration that many citizens remain disconnected from and/or uncomfortable with technology required to participate remotely.

Since a physical location would remain required, the question of how many members of the body must be present there for a meeting to take place comes to the fore. We heard many objections about the current requirement of a quorum of the body as the threshold. With “quorum” undefined in the law, the word takes its common meaning of fifty percent of the body plus one unless defined by the governing body.

We recommend all public bodies establish rules and procedures for conducting remote meetings to include:

- The minimum number of people (2 or more) required to be physically present
- How many remote members be counted toward the quorum requirement
- Procedures for conducting hybrid meetings

Many public bodies are geographically diverse, some spanning the entire state; others are quite large, over 50 members, making gathering over half of them in one place a major challenge. We received many suggestions from stakeholders about the minimum number required, ranging from one person through various iterations of some portion (10, 30, 40 percent) of the whole body to some real (2,5, etc.) number of people. We learned that some bodies define “quorum” in their governing documents at a far lower number than half and with or without other attributes. We also think a citizen having only one person from the body present seriously reduces the citizen’s perception of “being heard” by the whole body.

As to remote participation for members, we believe this should be allowed under non-emergency situations with restraint. The idea of a public meeting is for the public to see, hear, and address the public body. The larger the part of the body present, the better that end can be met. Thus, the “not reasonably practical” standard for remote participation with documenting such reason in the minutes should remain. Only with these constraints can the public be assured their representatives are fulfilling their responsibilities.

We considered how remote member participation should be conducted. Current law requires remote participants “be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to each other during the meeting and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in attendance at the meeting's location.” Insufficient broadband capability in many areas inhibits us from recommending a requirement for both voice and visual participation simultaneously. We do think the roll call vote standard remain in place.

Another concern with remote meetings is public access. Since local boards control public access now, we think that should continue. The body may allow partial or full public participation, and any requirements added in RSA 91-A would have to be paid for by the state.

Instructions on how the public can access and participate (to whatever degree permitted) in any meeting remotely should be included in the notice of meeting along with a means of notifying the body if transmission to the public is interrupted. While public access is unavailable, no actions taken should be legitimate.

We do recommend that people present in the room be given priority over remote participants when public comment is allowed. We strongly encourage all bodies to allow the greatest possible public access.

Respectfully Submitted,

Representative Kurt Wuelper, Chairman

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

Mon Sep 20, 2021

Members/Attendees Present:

- Sen Regina Birdsell; Sen Kevin Cavanaugh; Rep Jordan Ulery; Rep Kurt Wuelper – Chair; Rep Bob Greene - Secretary

Minutes:

- Committee report/recommendation(s) due on Nov 1
- Next meeting (Public Hearing): Mon Sep 27, 10:30 - Sen B will secure room
- Future meetings (2-3):
 - Wed Oct 6, 10:30am
 - Mon Oct 18, 10:30am
- Discussions:
 - Do we retain the quorum requirement of the members in a physical location for “public bodies” per 91-A; overall pros/cons for remote meetings:
 - Sen C - remote format is successful in his district
 - Sen B, Rep U - some munis don’t allow for public input, this would be exacerbated in remote format
 - Rep U - Dillon’s Rule should apply for all munis
 - Rep W - remote access, but for direct participation physical presence should be required
 - There’s general agreement that hybrid attendance is fine; still the question is on a quorum requirement for members in physical location
 - Rep U - remote access only allowed after quorum of members/alternates has been satisfied
- Action items/scope:
 - Control over public input (currently there’s no prohibition against remote public input - cmte seems unanimous)
 - Municipalities vs. other public bodies
 - Requirement of quorum/alternates and physical location

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Greene

603.880.3929

bob.greene@leg.state.nh.us

www.bobgreene4nh.com

www.facebook.com/bobgreene4nh

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

Mon Sep 27, 2021, 10:30am

Members/Attendees Present:

- Sen Regina Birdsell; Sen Kevin Cavanaugh; Rep Jordan Ulery; Rep Ken Wuelper – Chair; Rep Bob Greene - Secretary
- Kate Horgan, NH Association of Counties (50 members, but quorum requirements are just 6 counties and 20 members)
- Cordell A. Johnston, Govt Affairs Counsel, NH Muni Assn
- Adam Sexton, WMUR

Minutes / Agenda:

- Define physical location/quorum:
 - Physical location required/onsite attendance required for voting members (agreed on last meeting)
 - Remote participation/voting OK only in emergencies or whatever the board or municipality decides (agreed)
 - Discussion:
 - Let individual municipalities and boards decide quorum requirements on their own, with minimum parameters that apply statewide
 - Suggested physical quorum minimum requirements: no less than 2, no more than 50% + 1
 - ultimately, public body will decide — within min. requirements our cmte will decide — and put in their governing documents/by-laws
 - Remote members participation - audible under current law, and “generally” visible; must be visible to vote
- Control over public input - committee’s scope questioned; seeking input from Sen Carson; Ulery - Hudson Planning Board recently held separate meeting to allow public to speak
- Outside committee’s scope:
 - SB vs agencies vs municipality - allow public participation / speaking while remote
 - Alternate member authority
 - Cybersecurity

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

Respectfully Submitted,

Bob Greene

New Hampshire State Representative

Vice Chair, Legislative Administration Committee

Judiciary Committee

603.880.3929

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

Mon Oct 6, 2021, 10:30am

Members/Attendees Present:

- Sen Regina Birdsell; Sen Kevin Cavanaugh; Rep Jordan Ulery; Rep Ken Wuelper – Chair; Rep Bob Greene - Secretary
- Rebecca Sky - Executive Direct, NH Commission on Aging
- Kate Horgan, NH Association of Counties (50 members, but quorum requirements are just 6 counties and 20 members)
- Cordell A. Johnston, Govt Affairs Counsel, NH Muni Assn
- Curtis Berry, Lobbyist with 2 guests from Microsoft
 - John Wynn (Microsoft Teams video conference platform - similar to Zoom)

Minutes:

- Recommendations for final report:
 - Physical location required
 - Some remote participation counts toward quorum requirement, minimum of 2
 - Rep Ulery - “a plurality of the board physically present”
 - Remote participation:
 - by members:
 - permitted; authentication technology / protocol recommended
 - visibility for voting:
 - “as much as possible”
 - required for roll call votes per current law
 - by the public:
 - permitted - see, hear, speak
 - meeting notice should include means for public access
 - speaking permitted - based on board’s recommendation
 - Study committee’s recommendation: onsite participants first, then remote participants

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW AUTHORIZING GOVERNING BODIES OF MUNICIPALITIES TO HOLD VIRTUAL MEETINGS AND TO STUDY REMOTE ACCESS TO MEETINGS UNDER RSA 91-A (HB 108, Chapter 163:3, Laws of 2021)

- if transmission difficulties ensue, shut down the meeting and reschedule (recommended by NHRTK)

Respectfully Submitted,

Rep. Bob Greene



NEW HAMPSHIRE NURSES' ASSOCIATION

25 Hall St. Unit 1E, Concord, NH 03301

PHONE: (603) 225 -3783

EMAIL: office@nhnurses.org

WEBSITE: www.NHNurses.org

HB 1014

Dear Chair Gordon and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am providing this verbal and written testimony today on behalf of the NH Nurses Association in support of HB 1014, an act allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

This bill:

- Establishes requirements for remote access to public meetings under RSA 91-A, the right-to-know law
- Strikes the requirement that persons be present at a specific physical location
- Strikes the determination of an emergency be made by the chair or presiding officer
- Adds that public access can be provided by telephone, video or by other means; excludes chat rooms

Remote access to public meetings was available pursuant to Emergency Order # 12, during the declared state of emergency brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. This allowed members of the public to participate safely, regardless of their location, via the use of video or telephone. This significantly reduced barriers to participation.

Nurses throughout the state seek to be engaged in the activities of public bodies – local, regional or statewide boards, committees, commissions or legislative bodies. With more than 20,000 licensed registered nurses in New Hampshire, they work in a wide variety of roles and institutions. As you can imagine, they also bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to policy deliberations, particularly those related to a public health emergency.

During the pandemic, nurses have been stretched to their limits and find it increasingly difficult to carve out time to travel to meetings that require in-person presence for participation. In addition, as the pandemic continues to rage, many nurses are hesitant to participate in indoor gatherings that may put them at further risk of exposure, as they contemplate further stressing their colleagues and healthcare agencies already functioning with limited staff. It is particularly difficult for those that may be immunocompromised or living at a great distance.

The expiration of the executive order allowing fully remote meetings of public bodies has exacerbated the difficulty many nurses experience in participating in the discourse of public bodies, include those of the NH General Court.

HB 1014, removing the requirement for a physical location, would allow greater flexibility for those wishing to participate, creating equity of access between and among all residents and public office holders.

Thank you for your time and attention, and on behalf of the NH Nurses Association, I ask that you find HB 1014 Ought to Pass.

Sincerely,

Hon. Polly Campion, MS, RN
Member, NH Nurses Association

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:50:26 AM
From: Marks, Nisa M
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 3:58:46 PM
To: ~House Judiciary Committee
Cc: Michele L. Tremblay, naturesource communications; Scott, Robert; Diers, Ted; Sales, Tracie
Subject: HB1014 - RMAC Support
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB1014_RMAC_support_remote meetings_House Judiciary.pdf ;

Chair Gordon and Members of the Committee,

Please find attached the Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC)'s letter of **support for HB1014**, allowing remote meetings, ahead of the bill's January 27, 2022 hearing.

Please contact RMAC Chair Michele L. Tremblay at 603.796.2615 or mlt@naturesource.net with any questions regarding this letter of testimony.

Thank you,
Nisa Marks

Rivers and Lakes Programs Assistant
Rivers and Lakes Management and Protection Programs
Watershed Management Bureau, Water Division
NH Department of Environmental Services
29 Hazen Drive, P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095
(603) 271-1522
nisa.m.marks@des.nh.gov



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Lamprey River Advisory Committee



c/o 88 Hedding Road
Epping, NH 03042
www.lampreyriver.org

*Protecting the Lamprey, Little, North, North Branch, Pawtuckaway, and Piscassic rivers
that connect our fourteen communities*

Barrington, Brentwood, Candia, Deerfield, Durham, Epping, Exeter, Fremont,
Lee, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham, Raymond

January 20, 2022

The Honorable Edward Gordon, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 208
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

Dear Chair Gordon and the House Judiciary Committee:

The Lamprey River Advisory Committee is a duly authorized government instrumentality subject to New Hampshire right-to know laws and conducts its business in an open and accessible manner. Volunteer representatives are nominated by municipalities and appointed by the NH Department of Environmental Services. Lessons from the early days of the COVID pandemic allowed us to explore and benefit from new means of meeting publicly despite not being physically present together in a public space.

Gathering in one space has long been a problem for us. Members of the committee come from fourteen different communities and getting to a meeting can mean a drive of an hour or more, one way. It also means that representatives, most of whom who are retired, must drive in the dark and on sometimes treacherous roads in winter. Meeting remotely led to greater ease of participation and, therefore, better representation from diverse view-points.

With a return to state-mandated, in-person meetings amid the on-going pandemic and the more recent spread of the highly infectious Omicron variant, several members have felt great unease about attending meetings and have retreated from active participation. If and when COVID is brought under control, other serious risks, such as influenza and driving long distances in winter conditions, will continue. The *status quo* of requiring a full quorum in-person did not serve committee members or the public well before the pandemic and it certainly does not now, nor will it in the uncertain future.

We wish to give our full support to HB 1014, as it will improve adaptability in changing times. It will improve our ability to do our job, thus providing direct benefits to the rivers we are charged with protecting, local communities, and the State of New Hampshire.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Foley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent, sweeping flourish at the end of the name.

Joseph Foley, chair

Cc: Tracie Sales, NHDES

I Support HB1014

Hon Representatives,

I Support HB1014.

NH prides itself for its participatory government.

When the NH Constitution was written, horses were used to get to the State House. That was the normal method of getting to a meeting.

Today meeting electronically is a normal and very possible way of meeting.

Which can continue the long tradition of NH participatory government.

Please support HB1014 so that “all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good.”

Respectfully,

Len

Leonard Campbell
Meredith, NH
603-455-1105

I respectfully request that the Committee vote in favor of this legislation. Those who are immune compromised should not be prevented from participating fully in our government, or risk their health and safety to do so. This is especially important since masks are not required in legislative hearings and floor debates.

Hi there - Loren Foxx, Bedford NH. I support this bill because I believe that the House in our state is a very exclusive club. As it pays a mere \$100 annual stipend, it is something that many of us are simply not able to afford to even consider. Motivated citizens who are working a full-time job find it impossible to run for office; those of us who are focused on public health and the environment wonder about the responsibility of driving to Concord several times a week. This bill would enable those in office to fulfill their responsibility in spite of any transportation inconveniences, and would encourage others who are deterred from seeking office to attempt to grab the ring. This is also the responsible thing to do, especially when considering the fact that we are still in the throes of a global pandemic. Thank you for listening.

House Judiciary Committee Members

I am writing in support of HB 1014 which would allow public meetings to be held virtually. This is a public health safety precaution which will improve attendance of both state legislators and citizens as well as the condition of our public health. Too many of our legislators are becoming sick as a result of in-person-only public meetings, and too many of our legislators and citizens are being excluded from their right to participate in meeting because of existing health conditions.

It is reasonable and ethical to hold these meetings in-person and virtually. Please support HB 1014. Thank you.

Voting Members:

Michele L. Tremblay

Chair

Conservation
Community

Larry T. Spencer

Vice Chair
Conservation
Commissions

Victoria Bunker

Historic/Archeological
Interests

Christopher Hodgdon

NH Fish & Game
Commission

Frederick J. McNeill

Municipal Officer

Madeleine Mineau

Granite State
Hydropower
Association

Robert M. Roseen

Recreational Interests

Ruth Ward

Local River Management
Advisory Committees

Donald L. Ware

Public Water Suppliers

Vacant

Agricultural Community

Vacant

Business & Industry
Association

Non-Voting Members:

Peter Bowman

NH Department of
Natural and Cultural
Resources

Brian Eaton

NH Department of
Safety

Jennifer Gilbert

NH Office of
Strategic Initiatives

Mark Hemmerlein

NH Department of
Transportation

Shawn Jasper

NH Department of
Agriculture,
Markets & Food

John Magee

NH Fish & Game
Department

Staff:

Tracie Sales

Program Manager

Nisa Marks

Program Assistant

Vacant

Watershed Coordinator

N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program

N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

January 27, 2022

The Honorable Edward Gordon, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 208
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 1014 *An act allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.*

Dear Chair Gordon and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of House Bill 1014**, which eliminates the requirement for public meetings to have a physical location, and eliminates the requirement for members of a public body to give a reason in meeting minutes for attending remotely.

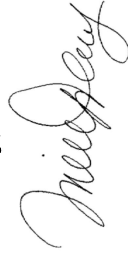
The RMAC supports this bill because

- Our experience was that remote meetings during the pandemic increased attendance and participation at public meetings;
- Current technology allows bodies to conduct meetings effectively and efficiently in a remote setting; and
- Eliminating the requirement for members to state why it is not reasonably practical for them to attend a meeting in person protects member privacy.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in support of HB 1014, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@natresource.net.

Sincerely,



Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Rep.s Simpson, Cushing, Cote, Weber, Ebel, Marsh, and Wilhelm
RMAC Representatives

Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES

Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES

Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES

Local River Management Advisory Committee Chairs

January 26, 2022

Dear House Judiciary Committee,

Please support HB 1014 - allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. Currently, requiring in-person attendance limits or prohibits access to public meetings for many folks.

There are a number of reasons why someone might not be able to make a public meeting in-person. I have been unable to attend many due to conflicts with work. The decision I and many others like me are faced with is a double edged sword, with impacts to wellbeing on both sides - do I want to work today to be able to afford dinner and rent, or do I want to take time out of work to attend a public hearing that may impact my quality of life in other ways? The either/or decision can be mitigated by providing virtual access to public meetings. With virtual access I could go to work, step away for a short duration to virtually participate in a public meeting, and then transition back to work immediately and seamlessly.

Beyond work, folks may be unable to attend public hearings in-person due to conflicts with school, a lack of childcare, lack of access to a private or public vehicle, or prohibitive monetary and time costs required to travel to the statehouse. Finally, while Covid-19 is still a threat to the health of many, virtual attendance at public meetings increases public safety.

Thank you for your time and your service. Please support HB 1014 - allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually - so that all Granite Staters may have access to public meetings that will affect our futures.

Take care,
Sara Lobdell

January 27, 2022

House Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building
Rooms 206-208

Re: In support of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

Dear Chair Gordon and Members of the Committee,

My name is Polly Campion. I am a former state representative and a retired RN. I come to you today, however, as the Chair of the State Commission on Aging in support of SB 322 and SB 344.

The Commission on Aging was established in 2019 to continue the good work of the State Committee on Aging but with a broader scope. Our membership includes representatives from multiple state agencies as well as public members serving as subject matter experts and representative of all ten counties. We are charged with advising the Governor and the general court on policy and planning related to aging.

Both our membership and our constituency include many individuals who may live at a distance, be challenged to access transportation, may be actively working in the field and/or may be immunocompromised. Any one of these circumstances may prevent an individual from full participation in the work of the Commission.

During the State of Emergency when our meetings were fully remote, we had quorums at every meeting. Every participant, whether they were one of the 26 Commission members, or a member of the public, was on equal footing regarding access. And we typically had between 40 and 60 individuals “remotely attending” our meetings.

With the expiration of the executive order allowing fully remote meetings of public bodies, we have been challenged to execute our work due to a lack of a quorum. For example, we held our monthly Commission meeting on Monday at the Audubon Center, with 11 members present in person. We needed 13 to act on proposals having to do with transportation, legislative positions, as well as the regular business of the Commission. We have had no public attendees at the physical locations of our meetings since the end of the executive order. We believe this is because we still enable remote participation, which the public prefers.

HB 1014, removing the requirement for a physical location, would allow us to move to 100% remote meetings, creating equity of access between and among all participants, maximizing our effectiveness.

While I am primarily focused on the needs of one public body, the Commission on Aging, older adults have a great deal to offer as well as tremendous interest in participating in the activities of the General Court and other public bodies. As you know, we have also been among the most vulnerable during the Covid-19 pandemic. Enabling all of us to continue to participate in civic activities as we age would benefit all.

Thank you for your time and attention, and on behalf of the State Commission on Aging, I ask that you find HB 1014 Ought to Pass.

Sincerely,



Hon. Polly Campion, MS, RN
Chair, NH State Commission on Aging

Dear Chairman Gordon and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for accepting this written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

New Hampshire is comprised of many small towns, whose business is done by volunteer committees. In this time of COVID, it is frequent that a committee member must remain at home. Perhaps that committee member is immuno-compromised, so that remaining home is a medically prudent precaution. Perhaps that committee member has been exposed to COVID, or has been infected with COVID, and must remain isolated for the medically recommended quarantine period.

For whatever reason a committee member cannot attend in person, it may be that a quorum cannot be met, and an important committee cannot meet. The business of the town is held up.

If HB 1014 were to pass, these towns could continue to conduct business virtually.

In the State House, elected Senators and Representatives who are immuno-compromised, exposed to, or infected with COVID cannot engage in debate and cannot cast a vote. The community that these lawmakers represent is thus deprived of its legal representation at the State House.

The Americans with Disabilities Act seems to require that a disability NOT deprive an individual of participation and legal rights. Even so, the NH State House has NOT provided for the participation of these immuno-compromised, exposed, or infected members. It seems likely that COVID has been spread among attendees at State House deliberations, regardless of the size of the venue. We saw last year that the technology exists for remote participation.

Therefore we need HB 1014 to ensure the protection of our lawmakers' health, to ensure that all towns continue to have the representation of their lawmakers in Concord, and to ensure that the many committees doing the business of New Hampshire's many town can continue to function, with our governing bodies able to accept testimony and votes both in person and remotely, given individuals' various medical needs and the ever-changing status of our state's infection levels.

Thank you for accepting this testimony IN SUPPORT of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

Sincerely,

Susan Richman
16 Cowell Drive
Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-2758 susan7richman@gmail.com



advocate • educate • collaborate
to improve the health and wellness of all Granite Staters

January 27, 2022

The Honorable Edward Gordon, Chair
House Judiciary Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 208
33 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: New Futures' support for HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

Dear Representative Gordon and Honorable Members of the Committee,

New Futures appreciates the opportunity to testify in favor of House Bill 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. New Futures is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that advocates, educates and collaborates to improve the health and wellness of all New Hampshire residents. To advance responsible, effective and inclusive public health policy, New Futures works with individuals and organizations throughout the state to help them engage in the legislative process.

New Futures stands in strong support of HB 1014, as it proposes to increase access to public meetings by allowing meetings to be held virtually. As you Representatives know too well, COVID-19 has disrupted public processes in many ways, making it difficult at times for state and local committees and boards to meet safely in person. To this day, with COVID still raging throughout New Hampshire, many members of the public are unable to attend public hearings and meetings without risking their own health or the health of their families, friends and communities. The use of videoconferencing technology, like Zoom, is critical during these challenging times not only to facilitating public meetings and hearings, but to allowing individual residents and advocates to make their voices heard.

With any luck, the COVID-19 pandemic will soon come to an end, but the obstacles prohibiting many individuals from attending and participating in public meetings will not. Long before COVID-19, many Granite Staters faced geographic, physical, economic or other challenges to accessing public meetings. Many working individuals, young parents, or others facing physical, medical or behavioral health challenges, among others, struggle to secure the time, transportation or other arrangements necessary to attend and make their voices heard at public meetings. Many of these individuals represent demographic groups – young professionals, working families, seniors, individuals with disabilities and others – that are most directly impacted by the policy decisions made by our public bodies. Their voices and perspectives are critical to policy discussions, yet they are unable to take part in a direct and meaningful way.

As proposed, HB 1014 would help to address these concerns by allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually. These would ease access for office holders and increase engagement opportunities for the public. With an aging population that is growing more diverse culturally and economically, this promises to bring in important and underrepresented perspectives, and to strengthen New Hampshire's public processes.

For these reasons, New Futures urges the Committee to vote HB 1014 Ought to Pass. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Jake Berry
Vice President of Policy
New Futures

I support HB 1014 because it allows me to participate in my government more fully.

I have driven to Concord several times to give testimony. Each time, I usually had to talk a half day off of work.

That is a big price to pay, since most of us only get 2 or 3 weeks of vacation a year.

Remote access allows me to listen in or testify either from my home – or if I'm at work, I can leave work and listen or testify even using the Zoom app on my phone. It gives those of us like me who work full time an opportunity to be heard.

Thank you for considering remote access – it is the right thing to do for New Hampshire residents.

Mary Beth Raven

9 Four Winds Rd.

Merrimack, NH 03054

Dear Chairman Gordon and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am emailing you in support of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

Holding public meetings virtually began as an emergency measure during a pandemic. It opened the ability to participate in our legislative process to all citizens, as long as they had internet access. A multitude of reasons exist for people not being able to appear in person to voice their positions on legislation: having a disability, being elderly, having medical restrictions, being a caregiver for the young or old, lack of transportation, work obligations, busy schedules and more. The distance that residents of the northern part of our state must travel is a barrier to in-person testimony. Environmentally speaking, fewer people driving to Concord to attend public hearings reduces pollution.

Likewise, our legislators have numerous valid reasons for not being able to appear in person on any given day. This should not deny them the opportunity to represent their constituents. They should be allowed to participate and vote remotely.

Virtual interactions have become a common technological tool in our everyday lives. Wider participation in our legislative process by a broader swath of our population is a welcome development. I ask for your support of HB 1014.

Thank you for your work for our state and for this opportunity to submit my testimony.

Respectfully,

Linda Olson Bundy

Antrim

House Bill 1014

Honorable Committee Members,

If we have learned nothing else during this pandemic, we now know how to include the public remotely as their legislators conduct the people's business.

We also know how to protect our legislators from illness or accident and should allow them to participate remotely as well.

Democracy thrives with public participation. Allowing remote access to meetings has stirred citizens to attend more meetings and has encouraged them to express their opinions about those bills that will shape the future of this state.

I support HB1014 and respectfully request you do so as well.

Carla Billingham
Salem, NH

HB 1014 – allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.
House Judiciary Committee, Rm. 206 - 208
January 27, 2022, 11:00 A.M.
Time: 1:45

Dear Chair Gordon and members of the committee:

I write in support of HB 1014, consistent with my prior submissions to this body, and by way of letters to the editor, calling for remote, interactive video access of committee meetings. Such access was provided in 2020 and 2021, and was enthusiastically utilized by the general public. This allowed for a free and fair exchange of views, the heart and soul of our representative democracy, the opposite of the opportunities available from rule by autocracy, or authoritarianism, or fascism.

Not only does this bill provide for two-way, public access, it affords members of committees who are physically challenged, or otherwise vulnerable to the ravages of a killer virus, the ability to fulfill their oaths to our Constitutions and to their constituents from a medically safe environment.

The lawsuit in Cushing v Packard was filed 11 months ago and is still without final resolution. At issue is whether the NH legislature is immune from any abuse of authority, and whether that legislative immunity from abuse is absolute.

There is little reason to believe a judicial resolution will occur before the end of the 2022 legislative session. Therefore, it becomes more important that HB 1014, and any amendment(s) consistent with the spirit of the bill, become law. Since time is of the essence, it is imperative the effective date of this bill be amended to: This act shall take effect upon passage.

Bob Perry
Strafford

I oppose HB 1014 as written. Virtual meetings are a way of disenfranchising the public most notably the less fortunate. Since hybrid meetings are readily available, there is no longer a need for virtual meetings.

Public access by telephone only is simply not acceptable, everyone needs to be on the same page as regards any exhibits. I am aware of a virtual workers compensation hearing that the worker lost because they were "attending" on a small laptop computer and could not effectively comment on a video provided by the company that the hearing officer could see on a larger screen.

There is also a matter of access and cost. Ordinary people may not have the high-speed Internet and large screens available to companies and attorneys. Some of the dial-in numbers provided were toll calls for those on landline telephones, and among the very least fortunate there are those who must pay by the minute for any call both cellphones and landlines. People should not have to pay to attend public meetings.

The Concord School Board adopted a very successful hybrid meeting format early in the pandemic. In-person meetings were held in the high school auditorium where social distancing of 20 feet or more could be obtained, but both board members and the public could attend via the Internet instead. Everything was displayed on a large screen broadcast over cable TV, and I believe you could call in by telephone if you were watching. A setup like this should be the minimum for public meetings, not what is authorized in HB 1014.

Roy Schweiker, Concord NH



New Hampshire

January 27, 2022

Honorable Chairman Edward Gordon
House Health and Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee
Legislate Office Building Room 205
North Main St
Concord, NH 03301

RE: NAMI New Hampshire's support for HB 1014

Dear Chairman and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Holly Stevens, and I am the Director of Public Policy at NAMI New Hampshire, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI NH is a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots organization whose mission is to improve the lives of all people impacted by mental illness and suicide through support, education and advocacy. On behalf of NAMI NH, I am here today to speak in favor of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, NAMI NH strongly supported remote access to public meetings. To ensure robust community involvement in governmental processes, it is important to use all technology available that allows individuals access the proceedings. There is an array of reasons that prevent people from being able to attend these meetings in person.

Last session, the legislature demonstrated that it, the largest governing body in the state, was able to hold productive and successful remote public hearings. If the NH House of Representatives is clearly capable of operating remotely, so should other smaller governing bodies throughout our state. Many states across the country allow for remote access to their governing bodies. New Hampshire should come into the 21st century and also allow its elected officials and residents to engage civically via remote means.

For these reasons, NAMI NH stands in strong support of HB 1014. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly A. Stevens". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Holly A. Stevens, Esq.

Reflecting on 40 Years: Continuing Our Journey to Hope, Help, and Health
NAMI New Hampshire • 85 North State Street • Concord, NH 03301
InfoLine: 800-242-6264 • Tel. 603-225-5359 • Fax 603-228-8848 • info@naminh.org / www.NAMINH.org

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:50:26 AM

From: [Patti Anastasia](#)


Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 9:56:40 PM

To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)

Subject: RE: HB 1014

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

[HB 1014.pdf](#) 

Dear committee members, attached is my testimony re: HB 1014. Thank you for considering it when you discuss this bill.

Regards

Patricia Anastasia
50 Holstein Avenue
Londonderry, NH

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:57:12 AM
From: Peter & Verna James
Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 1:14:27 PM
To: ~House Judiciary Committee
Subject: SB 322, SB 344, and HB 1014
Importance: Normal

My name is C. Peter James and I am a resident of Grantham. I am on several local boards here and like nearly 100% of the members, I am a senior citizen volunteer on these boards. Also, like most of the members, I have "underlying health conditions" and am very cautious about trying to protect myself and my wife from Covid. Until last summer, we were allowed to conduct board and committee meetings fully remote with remote public access via both telephone and and Zoom. The permission to do this stopped at the end of the "Declaration of Emergency" and now we are required to have a quorum physically present. This is subjecting us citizen volunteers to unnecessary risk. The technology and experience have improved greatly in the last two years and the acceptance by the public has shown approval by the fact that more of the public are being involved than when we did not have the remote option.

This winter we are having difficulty gathering a physically present quorum due to members not willing or able to meet in person because of the escalating Covid numbers. At some point, we may have to actually cancel meetings of the some of the local boards and committees because we cannot raise the "required" physical quorum. Skipping a meeting or two for some groups is not a major issue, but for boards like the Planning Board and the ZBA, it can be a much larger problem because of delayed permits and decisions.

Thank you,

Peter James
Grantham, NH
603 470-8990

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46:45 AM
From: Philip Sherman
Sent: Thursday, January 27, 2022 3:03:25 PM
To: ~House Judiciary Committee
Cc: DOS: Bldgcodebrd; Toomey, Sean
Subject: HB1014
Importance: Normal

House Judiciary Committee members: My name is Philip Sherman and I am the chair of the State Building Code Review Board, which consists of 17 members who reside across the state, and meet monthly, and at times weekly, to deal with the building code adoption process. I am writing in support of HB1014, as this provision would be invaluable to our members, particularly in the case of required quarantines, bad weather or other extenuating circumstances, and in fact might be desirable for the entire board. I have witnessed a recently concluded code adoption process in the State of Connecticut, which is similar to ours, which remained entirely on-line throughout, and the participation from the public was far greater than other years when the meetings were physical. Thank you for your consideration of this bill.

Philip R. Sherman, P.E.
P.O. Box 216
444 Wilmot Center Road
Elkins, NH 03233
603-526-6190



NEW HAMPSHIRE NURSES' ASSOCIATION

25 Hall St. Unit 1E, Concord, NH 03301

PHONE: (603) 225 -3783

EMAIL: office@nhnurses.org

WEBSITE: www.NHNurses.org

HB1014

Dear Chair Gordon and Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

I am providing this verbal and written testimony today on behalf of the NH Nurses Association in support of HB 1014, an act allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

This bill:

- Establishes requirements for remote access to public meetings under RSA 91-A, the right-to-know law
- Strikes the requirement that persons be present at a specific physical location
- Strikes the determination of an emergency be made by the chair or presiding officer
- Adds that public access can be provided by telephone, video or by other means; excludes chat rooms

Remote access to public meetings was available pursuant to Emergency Order # 12, during the declared state of emergency brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic. This allowed members of the public to participate safely, regardless of their location, via the use of video or telephone. This significantly reduced barriers to participation.

Nurses throughout the state seek to be engaged in the activities of public bodies – local, regional or statewide boards, committees, commissions or legislative bodies. With more than 20,000 licensed registered nurses in New Hampshire, they work in a wide variety of roles and institutions. As you can imagine, they also bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to policy deliberations, particularly those related to a public health emergency.

During the pandemic, nurses have been stretched to their limits and find it increasingly difficult to carve out time to travel to meetings that require in-person presence for participation. In addition, as the pandemic continues to rage, many nurses are hesitant to participate in indoor gatherings that may put them at further risk of exposure, as they contemplate further stressing their colleagues and healthcare agencies already functioning with limited staff. It is particularly difficult for those that may be immunocompromised or living at a great distance.

The expiration of the executive order allowing fully remote meetings of public bodies has exacerbated the difficulty many nurses experience in participating in the discourse of public bodies, include those of the NH General Court.

HB 1014, removing the requirement for a physical location, would allow greater flexibility for those wishing to participate, creating equity of access between and among all residents and public office holders.

Thank you for your time and attention, and on behalf of the NH Nurses Association, I ask that you find HB 1014 Ought to Pass.

Sincerely,

Hon. Polly Campion, MS, RN
Member, NH Nurses Association

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46:48 AM
From: [Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath](#)
Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 12:07:37 PM
To: ~[House Judiciary Committee](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB1014
Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for receiving my testimony today.

I write in strong support of HB1014. Remote access to meetings, hearings, and testimony are essential to ensure the voices of all Granite Staters are equally heard. As a Christian minister, one of the tenants of my faith is to love my neighbor. We cannot fully love our neighbors if their voices are not equally represented in our halls of government. In this chapter of Covid-19 it is simply not safe for many immune compromised, and disabled constituents (and their care givers) to attend hearings, or meetings in person. Parents of school-aged children are dealing regularly with exposures, and illness. They deserve a chance to be heard in person.

The Council of Churches is comprised of hundreds of congregations across the state. The vast majority of our congregations continue to offer remote access to Sunday worship, essential meetings, and more. We are communities of faith rooted in the idea that incarnation, being physically gathered together, is at the very heart of our faith. However, even still we know that right now that is simply not possible in the ways it has been in the past. Allowing a remote option ensures all of us are able to be at the table though we are physically distant from one another. Surely the legislature wants this as well?

We ask you to move HB1014 forward with a vote of Ought to Pass. Please do not hesitate if there is any additional information I can provide for you, or you would like to speak with one of our denominational leaders.

With gratitude,

Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath

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Rev. Heidi Carrington Heath
Pronouns: she/her/hers
Executive Director
New Hampshire Council of Churches
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Concord, NH 03302
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I am consistently in the office Tuesday-Thursday. If your email, or message falls outside those working hours, there may be a delay in my response. It is not atypical for me to take more than 24 hours to respond to email. My working hours and your working hours may not coincide. Please do not feel obligated to reply outside of your normal working hours. I encourage your sabbath practice.

Archived: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 11:46:46 AM

From: [Susan Richman](#)

Sent: Wednesday, January 26, 2022 3:48:33 PM

To: [~House Judiciary Committee](#)

Subject: IN SUPPORT of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually

Importance: Normal

Dear Chairman Gordon and members of the House Judiciary Committee,

Thank you for accepting this written testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

New Hampshire is comprised of many small towns, whose business is done by volunteer committees. In this time of COVID, it is frequent that a committee member must remain at home. Perhaps that committee member is immuno-compromised, so that remaining home is a medically prudent precaution. Perhaps that committee member has been exposed to COVID, or has been infected with COVID, and must remain isolated for the medically recommended quarantine period.

For whatever reason a committee member cannot attend in person, it may be that a quorum cannot be met, and an important committee cannot meet. The business of the town is held up.

If HB 1014 were to pass, these towns could continue to conduct business virtually.

In the State House, elected Senators and Representatives who are immuno-compromised, exposed to, or infected with COVID cannot engage in debate and cannot cast a vote. The community that these lawmakers represent are thus deprived of their legal representation at the State House. We saw last year that the technology exists for remote participation.

The Americans with Disabilities Act seems to require that a disability NOT deprive an individual of participation and legal rights. Even so, the NH State House has NOT provided for the participation of these immuno-compromised, exposed, or infected members. It seems likely that COVID has been spread among attendees at State House deliberations, regardless of the size of the venue.

Therefore we need HB 1014 to ensure the protection of our lawmakers' health, to ensure that all towns continue to have the representation of their lawmakers in Concord, and to ensure that the many committees doing the business of New Hampshire's many town can continue to function, with our governing bodies able

to accept testimony and votes both in person and remotely, given individuals' various medical needs and the ever-changing status of our state's infection levels.

Thank you for accepting this testimony IN SUPPORT of HB 1014, allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

Sincerely,
Susan Richman
16 Cowell Drive, Durham, NH 03824
(603) 868-2758 Susan7richman@gmail.com

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

HB 1014 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2054
08/10

HOUSE BILL ***1014***

AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

SPONSORS: Rep. Simpson, Rock. 36; Rep. Cushing, Rock. 21; Rep. Cote, Hills. 31; Rep. Weber,
Ches. 1; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 5; Rep. Marsh, Carr. 8; Rep. Wilhelm, Hills. 42

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes requirements for remote access to public meetings under RSA 91-A, the right-to-know law.

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 Twenty Two

AN ACT allowing public meetings to be conducted virtually.

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

1 1 Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Meetings Open to the Public. Amend RSA 91-
2 A:2, III to read as follows:

3 III. A public body may, but is not required to, allow one or more members of the body to
4 participate in a meeting by electronic or other means of communication for the benefit of the public
5 and the governing body, subject to the provisions of this paragraph.

6 ~~[(a) A member of the public body may participate in a meeting other than by attendance
7 in person at the location of the meeting only when such attendance is not reasonably practical. Any
8 reason that such attendance is not reasonably practical shall be stated in the minutes of the
9 meeting.~~

10 ~~(b) Except in an emergency, a quorum of the public body shall be physically present at
11 the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the meeting. For purposes of this
12 subparagraph, an "emergency" means that immediate action is imperative and the physical presence
13 of a quorum is not reasonably practical within the period of time requiring action. The
14 determination that an emergency exists shall be made by the chairman or presiding officer of the
15 public body, and the facts upon which that determination is based shall be included in the minutes of
16 the meeting.~~

17 ~~(c) Each part of a meeting required to be open to the public shall be audible or otherwise
18 discernable to the public at the location specified in the meeting notice as the location of the
19 meeting.]~~

20 ***(a) A physical location is not required for any meeting, provided the meeting***
21 ***complies with the provisions of this paragraph.***

22 ***(b) If a meeting has no physical location, public access shall be provided to the***
23 ***public by telephone, and additional access may be provided by video or other electronic***
24 ***means.***

25 ***(c) If a meeting has no physical location, public notice of the meeting, with all***
26 ***information necessary to access the meeting telephonically and by other means, shall be***
27 ***given as provided in this chapter. The notice shall provide a mechanism for the public to***
28 ***alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access. The meeting***
29 ***shall be adjourned if the public is unable to access the meeting.***

30 ***(d) Each member participating electronically or otherwise [must] in a meeting***
31 ***required to be open to the public shall be able to simultaneously hear each other and speak to***

HB 1014 - AS INTRODUCED

- Page 2 -

1 each other during the meeting, and shall be audible or otherwise discernable to the public in
2 attendance at the meeting's location, *if the meeting has a physical location*. Any member
3 participating in such fashion shall identify *the location from which the person is participating*
4 *and* the persons present in the location from which the member is participating. No meeting shall
5 be conducted by electronic mail or any other form of communication, *including an online chat*
6 *function*, that does not permit the public to hear, read, or otherwise discern meeting discussion
7 contemporaneously at the meeting location specified in the meeting notice.

8 ~~[(d)]~~ *(e)* Any meeting held pursuant to the terms of this paragraph shall comply with all
9 of the requirements of this chapter relating to public meetings, and shall not circumvent the spirit
10 and purpose of this chapter as expressed in RSA 91-A:1.

11 ~~[(e)]~~ *(f)* A member participating in a meeting by the means described in this paragraph
12 is deemed to be present at the meeting for purposes of voting. All votes taken during such a meeting
13 shall be by roll call vote.

14 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.