

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**February 10, 2022**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on Ways and Means to which was referred HB 1450-FN,**

**AN ACT including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.**

**Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Richard Ames**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	<b>Ways and Means</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 1450-FN</b>
Title:	<b>including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.</b>
Date:	<b>February 10, 2022</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>CONSENT</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill seeks to make explicit the commitment of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to the conservation of farming across New Hampshire by adding the word “agriculture” to the LCHIP statement of purpose, by adding to the LCHIP board a member representing agricultural interests, and by providing additional revenue to LCHIP by transfer of one quarter of a percent of annual proceeds from the real estate transfer tax. Testimony on the bill affirmed both that agricultural conservation already is deemed in practice a central component of the LCHIP mission and that the LCHIP board over the years has done invaluable work within the limits of its available resources for farm conservation under its natural resources rubric. Given this history, and the affirmation at the committee’s public hearing of LCHIP’s continuing commitment to agricultural interests, the committee believes the proposed change in mission statement and board membership and additional tax transfer are unnecessary at this time.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Richard Ames  
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## CONSENT CALENDAR

Ways and Means

**HB 1450-FN**, including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Ames for Ways and Means. This bill seeks to make explicit the commitment of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to the conservation of farming across New Hampshire by adding the word “agriculture” to the LCHIP statement of purpose, by adding to the LCHIP board a member representing agricultural interests, and by providing additional revenue to LCHIP by transfer of one quarter of a percent of annual proceeds from the real estate transfer tax. Testimony on the bill affirmed both that agricultural conservation already is deemed in practice a central component of the LCHIP mission and that the LCHIP board over the years has done invaluable work within the limits of its available resources for farm conservation under its natural resources rubric. Given this history, and the affirmation at the committee’s public hearing of LCHIP’s continuing commitment to agricultural interests, the committee believes the proposed change in mission statement and board membership and additional tax transfer are unnecessary at this time. **Vote 19-0.**

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # HB 1450

**BILL TITLE:** including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.

**DATE:** February 10, 2022

**LOB ROOM** 202-204

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**MOTION: (Please check one box)**

OTP       ITL       Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)       Adoption of Amendment #  
 Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Ames      Seconded by Rep. Ulery      Vote: 19 - 0

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**MOTION: (Please check one box)**

OTP     OTP/A     ITL     Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)     Adoption of Amendment #  
 Interim Study (2nd year)    *(if offered)*

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_      Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

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**MOTION: (Please check one box)**

OTP     OTP/A     ITL     Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)     Adoption of Amendment #  
 Interim Study (2nd year)    *(if offered)*

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

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**CONSENT CALENDAR:**  YES      \_\_\_\_\_ NO

**Minority Report?** \_\_\_\_\_ Yes     No    If yes, author, Rep: \_\_\_\_\_ Motion

Respectfully submitted:

*Alan Bershtein*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rep Alan Bershtein, Clerk



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK  
2022 Session - Ways and Means**

Roll Call Committee Registers Report

Title:  
including agricultural resources under the land and community  
heritage investment program.

Bill #	HB 1450
Motion	ITL
Amendment #	
Exec Session Date	2/10/22
Consent Calendar?	Yes

Member	Motion / Seconded	Yea	Nay	NV
Patrick Abrami [Vice Chair]		x		
Carol McGuire (for Mary Griffin)		x		
Jordan Ulery	Second	x		
Fred Doucette		x		
Howard Pearl (for Tim Lang)		x		
Alan Bershtein [Clerk]		x		
John Janigian		x		
Hershel Nunez		x		
Walter Spilsbury		x		
Paul Tudor		x		
Judy Aron		x		
Almy, Susan		x		
Richard Ames(D)	Motion	x		
Thomas Southworth				x
Dennis Malloy(D)		x		
Thomas Schamberg(D)		x		
Edith Tucker(D)		x		
Jennie Gomarlo(D)		x		
Tom Loughman				x
Amanda Gourgue				x
Mary Hakken-Phillips(D)				x
James Murphy(D)		x		
Norman Major [Chair]		x		
<b>Total Vote</b>		<b>19</b>		<b>4</b>

NH House Committee on Ways and Means  
Public Hearing on: HB 1450

Date: January 20, 2022  
LOB Room: 202-204  
Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 2:10 PM  
Time Public Hearing Adjourned: 2:33 PM

Title: including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.

Sponsors: (Prime) Caplan (D), Bixby (D), Stavis (D)

Committee Members: Reps. Major, Abrami, Bershtein, M. Griffin, Ulery, Doucette, Elliott, Janigian, Nunez, Lang, Spilsbury, Tudor, Almy, Ames, Southworth, Malloy, Schamberg, Tucker, Gomarfo, Loughman, Gourgue, Hakken-Phillips and Murphy

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TESTIMONY

Rep Caplan, Sponsor:

- Introduced the bill
- See written testimony

Shawn Jasper, NH Commissioner of Agriculture

- Opposes the bill
- LCHIP is working just fine in this regard and should not be adjusted to include agriculture. Ag is already well represented in LCHIP and this bill would divert money from other LCHIP programs.
- The system, as it currently is, is working well. Ag has been well treated by LCHIP.
- Lang: recapped Jasper's testimony
- Re Almy's question... yes, forestry is part of agriculture.

Paula Bellemore, LCHIP

- Supports the bill
- See written testimony
- LCHIP will never say no to increased funding

No blue sheet sign ins



# House Remote Testify

## Ways and Means Committee Testify List for Bill HB1450 on 2022-01-20

Support: 3 Oppose: 5 Neutral: 1 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>
Fenner-Lukaitis, Elizabeth	Warner, NH glukaitis@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/16/2022 4:35 PM
Bates, David	Warner, NH dbates3@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/17/2022 9:29 AM
Bowles, Margaret	Lyme, NH mcb2885@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 10:22 AM
Saba, Robin	CANDIA, NH rbrooks230@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 3:07 PM
Brown, Jean	Hanover, NH jean.e.brown1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 6:20 PM
Kaplan, Susan	Lebanon, NH sskaplan01@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 8:22 PM
Hirai, Barbara	Lebanon, NH BPHirai@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/18/2022 9:52 PM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/19/2022 2:15 PM
Osborne, Jason	Auburn, NH houserepoffice@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/20/2022 8:35 AM



**Archived:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 8:56:02 AM  
**From:** [Karl Johnson](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, January 17, 2022 10:53:25 PM  
**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee  
**Cc:** [Tony Caplan](#); [Nikki Kolb](#)  
**Subject:** HB 1450-FN  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Legislators,

I grew up in Hollis NH in the 1950s and 60s. Back then Hollis was still a lovely farm town with working dairy, poultry, vegetable and fruit farms. I worked on several of those farms as a teenager.

There were lots of open fields and many old farmsteads. My family lived in a stately white Federal house connected to a weathered old barn by a row of outbuildings. It was the quintessential old New Hampshire farm. Alas, the fields are overgrown and all that's left is the house.

Times change. Hollis is still a lovely town, but it has become pretty much a suburban community. Most of the farms are gone and many of the open fields are now filed with executive homes. Most of the town's agricultural heritage has been lost. Progress is inevitable, but the loss of New Hampshire's agricultural history and open spaces is not.

HB 1450 FN would include agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program. It will help preserve New Hampshire's agricultural heritage for our children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to enjoy and learn from.

It will help us maintain our state's quality of life and economic vitality for its citizens. It will help to balance growth and development with protection of our state's agricultural, cultural and historical resources. Keeping New Hampshire's agricultural heritage alive will not stifle economic growth, but enhance it.

I now live up in Monroe where we still have a few working farms and open spaces. I'm convinced that HB1450-FN will make New Hampshire a better place to live. I urge you to support it.

Karl Johnson  
Board President  
NOFA-NH



Testimony on HB 1450-FN

Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

At the outset I should say that this bill isn't intended to alter the conservation program of the Land and Community Heritage Program so much as it is intended to formalize agricultural resources as a worthy statewide priority for conservation.

I want to recognize the invaluable work that the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program already does with farm conservation under its natural resource rubric. By formalizing agriculture as a priority area written into law, I don't foresee or intend to rethink the organization's strategizing on the choices that it makes, which are based on well thought out criteria and networking with a large number of stakeholder organizations and citizens across New Hampshire. But what I do want to do is give agriculture organizations, and groups that represent diverse farming interests and local food interests, a seat at the table when prioritizing how best to conserve the state's resources.

In the background to this bill are the demographic challenges facing New Hampshire farms, where nearly one third of farmers are 65 or over and most of these are farming without a younger farmer alongside them ready to take over the operations, or a plan for succession, (American Farmland Trust, 2012). This data suggests that the future of farming in NH may be facing uncertainty that could hurt our state's character and quality of life, and so it is important to take steps to ensure that at the appropriate time there is a way forward, including increased use of agricultural easements, for interested parties to ensure that these properties remain as farms rather than convert to other uses.

Why is it important to conserve farms? I think it goes beyond the scenic value of having farms remain a part of the landscape, although that too is important. I believe it is a strategic goal for the state to retain as much food self-sufficiency as we can for several reasons. We've seen what the Covid pandemic has done to supply chains and distribution of goods across the country. Having our food sourced from local farms means less exposure to the disruptions of supply that may come with future climate change events and God forbid, an even worse pandemic than the one we are currently still in. Also, local food is healthy food, by and large, and one of the hidden costs in our society that again we are seeing play out tragically in the pandemic is our over-reliance on industrially produced, highly processed foods coming from afar, sometimes very far, that are the exact opposite of local food produced on small farms that are answerable to a clientele of friends and neighbors and fellow citizens. The US industrial food system, although producing an abundance of cheap, questionably nutritious food, also leads to

epidemic levels of obesity and chronic disease that makes our country one of the unhealthiest in the world, with a falling life expectancy rate, due in part to our junk food diet. Retaining our farm landscape as a working landscape, supplying products to local as well as export markets, is the first step to ensure that NH citizens can rely on local healthy food options now and in the future. Currently, it is estimated that NH farms could support about 6 percent of the state's population with local food, one of the lowest percentages in New England. It's imperative that we make efforts to increase that level of food security as a safeguard against future lean times, as well as the advantages of local food to greater health.

Local farms retain dollars in local economies that would otherwise flow out of state. Maintaining a base of viable, productive farms will greatly enhance NH in economic terms and in ways that our current economic accounting fails to measure, such as greater health, environmental services such as carbon sequestration, along with already mentioned scenic value. Local agriculture already contributes significantly to New Hampshire's economic output, despite the challenges facing the state's farmers. NH has more than 4,000 farms covering 470,000 acres. The state estimates the agricultural industry supports more than 20,000 jobs with an economic value of some \$850 million. This includes \$479 million in direct sales of agricultural and other horticultural products and services and \$372 million in direct spending by agriculture related tourists, (NH Dept. of Agriculture).

Increasing those numbers relies on many factors, but an essential component will be increasing the ability of young and beginning farmers to access agricultural land, and that will depend on retaining our existing farms as productive parts of the economy as the current generation of farmers looks to pass on their holdings.

Market forces work against farm retention, and we see that becoming especially true given recent hikes in land speculation, and spiking land prices. Agricultural land values are increasing at a 7 percent year to year rate not seen in over a decade, according to the US Dep of Agriculture's 2021 Land Values Summary Report. New Hampshire sits at the high end of variation across the country, given our Northeastern location. All the more reason that there is an additional funding mechanism attached to the bill that would increase the LCHIP's ability to fund a wide array of projects going forward and help meet the state's strategic conservation needs in a fiscally responsible fashion.

And with that I'll conclude my comments and I'm willing to take questions.

Rep. Tony Caplan  
Environment and Agriculture Committee  
Merrimack, 6

HB 1450

# LCHIP

Land & Community Heritage  
Investment Program



## Testimony regarding HB 1450 -FN - Including agricultural resources under the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program

Before the House Ways and Means Committee

January 20, 2022

Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program, thank you for this opportunity to speak to HB 1450-FN. LCHIP supports the efforts of Representatives Caplan, Bixby, and Stavis to increase the pace of agricultural land conservation in New Hampshire, and to support the good work that LCHIP has been doing for twenty years. HB 1450-FN as introduced proposes three changes, which I will address in turn: adding the term “agriculture” to various sections of the LCHIP statute; providing additional funding through the Real Property Transfer Tax, and adding a seat to the LCHIP Board of Directors.

Since LCHIP’s inception in 2001, the legislature’s intent that LCHIP prioritize farmland, as well as wildlife habitat, working forestland, drinking water supply lands, and land for recreation, has been clear. In its first twenty years, LCHIP has supported the permanent conservation of 227 properties across the state. Of those, 93 included farmland conservation. In fact, 41% of all land conservation projects funded by LCHIP have included farmland protection.

While during that same time period LCHIP has, unfortunately, had to turn down more than 250 worthy and eligible land conservation proposals, only 13 farms seeking LCHIP funding have not received LCHIP support. LCHIP’s record of agricultural conservation is strong.

Naturally with so many worthy projects not receiving funding, LCHIP welcomes the possibility of increased funding. The new funding mechanism proposed would supplement LCHIP’s existing source, and may require we make some minor administrative changes, but there is no doubt that any increase in funding would be welcomed and well-used. For that reason, we leave it to the Legislature to evaluate the source and mechanism proposed.


Finally, HB 1450-FN proposes adding a ninth public member to the LCHIP Board of Directors, to be appointed by the Governor and Council and represent agricultural interests. LCHIP welcomes the expansion of its Board of Directors, which will strengthen representation of agricultural interests.

In closing, I would like to thank the members of the committee for their time and attention to these matters, and for the opportunity to speak to you here today. I am happy to answer any questions you might have.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula S. Bellemore, Executive Director

New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program

**Archived:** Thursday, March 17, 2022 9:01:13 AM  
**From:** [Teresa Rhodes Rosenberger](#)  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 20, 2022 10:21:38 AM  
**To:** ~House Ways & Means Committee  
**Subject:** Letter on HB 1450 from the Nh Preservation Alliance  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Attachments:**  
[HB1450NHPreservationAlliance.pdf](#) 

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Dear Committee members,

Attached is a letter from the NH preservation Alliance regarding HB 1450. Please contact me or Jennifer Goodman with any questions.

Thank you and have a terrific day.

Teresa Rosenberger

**Teresa Rhodes Rosenberger**

**Senior Advisor**  
603 665-8834 direct  
603 623-8700 main  
603 623-7775 fax  
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#)

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HB 1450-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2116  
08/05

HOUSE BILL            ***1450-FN***

AN ACT                including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Caplan, Merr. 6; Rep. Bixby, Straf. 17; Rep. Stavis, Graf. 13

COMMITTEE:          Ways and Means

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ANALYSIS

This bill includes agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program and requires an annual transfer from the real estate transfer tax revenue to the land and community heritage investment program trust fund.

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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 including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.

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

1 1 Purpose; Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. Amend RSA 227-M:1 to read  
2 as follows:

3 227-M:1 Purpose. The general court finds that in order to maintain New Hampshire's quality of  
4 life and economic vitality for its citizens, growth and development should be balanced with careful  
5 protection of the state's most important natural, **agricultural**, cultural, and historical resources.  
6 Permanent protection of these resources, through acquisition of lands, buildings, and other physical  
7 assets, or interests in these assets, must be accomplished along with their planned long-term  
8 stewardship. The general court further recognizes the importance of public-private partnerships to  
9 achieve these ends. To protect and preserve New Hampshire's natural, **agricultural**, cultural, and  
10 historical resources for this and future generations, the general court establishes in this chapter the  
11 New Hampshire land and community heritage investment program. The intent of the program is to  
12 conserve and preserve this state's most important natural, **agricultural**, cultural, and historical  
13 resources through the acquisition of lands, and cultural and historical resources, or interests therein,  
14 of local, regional, and statewide significance, in partnership with the state's municipalities and the  
15 private sector, for the primary purposes of protecting and ensuring the perpetual contribution of  
16 these resources to the state's economy, environment, and overall quality of life.

17 2 Eligible Resource; Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. Amend RSA 227-M:2,  
18 V to read as follows:

19 V. "Eligible resource" means a natural, **agricultural**, cultural, or historical resource  
20 including archaeological sites; historic buildings and structures which house cultural events and  
21 programs; historic properties including buildings and structures; historic and cultural lands and  
22 features; ecologically significant lands; existing and potential public water supply lands; farmland;  
23 forestland; habitat for rare species or important wildlife; wildlife corridors and habitat strongholds  
24 as defined in RSA 207:1; lands for recreation; riverine, lake, estuarine, and ocean shorelands; scenic  
25 areas and viewsheds; and wetlands and associated uplands.

26 3 Stewardship; Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. Amend RSA 227-M:2, VIII  
27 to read as follows:

28 VIII. "Stewardship" means planning for and taking the necessary actions over the long term  
29 to successfully preserve and protect the natural, **agricultural**, cultural, or historical value of a  
30 resource asset. Such actions include, as applicable, managing the resource asset in accordance with

1 all legal obligations entered into under this chapter, performing regular maintenance and upkeep,  
2 providing for necessary monitoring, educating or informing those that might negatively impact upon  
3 the resource asset about the need and/or legal obligation to protect and preserve it, paying tax or in-  
4 lieu-of tax obligations, obtaining liability insurance, and securing sufficient levels of financial  
5 resources to carry out all such necessary actions.

6 4 Board of Directors; Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. Amend RSA 227-  
7 M:4, II (c) to read as follows:

8 (c) [~~Eight~~] **Nine** public members, to be appointed by the governor and council:

- 9 (1) Two of whom shall represent cultural and historic resource interests;
- 10 (2) One of whom shall represent natural resources interests;
- 11 (3) One of whom shall represent outdoor recreation interests;
- 12 (4) One of whom shall represent business or real estate interests;
- 13 (5) One of whom shall represent municipal interests;
- 14 (6) One of whom shall represent local planning interests; [~~and~~]
- 15 (7) One of whom shall represent regional planning commissions[-] ; **and**
- 16 (8) **One of whom shall represent agricultural and local interests.**

17 5 Aquisition, Restoration, and Protection Criteria and Guidelines. Amend RSA 227-M:9, II(d) to  
18 read as follows:

19 (d) Extent to which project meets multiple objectives of the program (natural,  
20 **agricultural**, historic, and cultural);

21 6 New Section; Funding. Amend RSA 227-M by inserting after section 17 the following new  
22 section:

23 227-M:18 Funding. Each July 1, 1/4 of a percent of the revenue from the New Hampshire real  
24 estate transfer tax under RSA 78-B:13 shall be transferred to the land and community heritage trust  
25 fund for the purposes of land and community heritage investment program land and resource  
26 acquisition. Whatever portion of this deposit to the land and community heritage investment  
27 program is not used by June 30 of the following year for the funding of concrete historic,  
28 agricultural, natural, or cultural resource acquisition shall lapse to the general fund.

29 7 New Paragraph; Tax on Transfer of Real Property; Land and Community Heritage Investment  
30 Program. Amend RSA 78-B:13 by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

31 IV. The commissioner shall determine the annual amount of revenue each fiscal year and  
32 deposit 1/4 of a percent of such annual revenue into the land and community heritage trust fund  
33 established in RSA 227-M:7 as provided in RSA 227-M:18.

34 8 Trust Fund Established; Administration. Amend RSA 227-M:7, III to read as follows:

35 III. **Notwithstanding the procedures of RSA 227-M:18**, no funds of any state agency  
36 shall be transferred to the trust fund without specific authorization from the general court. Federal



**HB 1450-FN - AS INTRODUCED**

**- Page 3 -**

- 1 funds accepted by the fiscal committee and governor and council for purposes similar to those of this
- 2 chapter may be deposited in the trust fund.
- 3       9 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

**HB 1450-FN- FISCAL NOTE  
 AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**     State                     County                     Local                     None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Appropriation</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable Decrease
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**LOCAL:**

<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill expands the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to include agricultural resources. It also requires an annual transfer of 1/4 percent of Real Estate Transfer Tax (RETT) to the LCHIP trust fund on July 1st each year starting July 1, 2022.

The Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) states the fiscal impact is an indeterminable decrease on the General and Educational Trust Funds as they are unable to predict the total revenues from RETT in future years. However, using FY 2021 cash basis RETT revenue data, the DRA can calculate the fiscal impact of the proposed legislation had the legislation been in place in a prior fiscal year. In FY 2021, total cash basis RETT revenue was \$202.7M. One quarter of one percent of total cash basis RETT revenue for FY 2021 is \$506,750. Thus, if the proposed legislation had been in place in a prior fiscal year, General and Education Trust Fund revenue would have been reduced by \$506,750. However, to the extent the LCHIP trust fund revenues are not used they will be lapsed back into the General Fund.

LCHIP states there would be an indeterminable decrease in RETT revenue and an indeterminable increase in the LCHIP Trust Fund. They also state there would be an

indeterminable increase in local revenue as some of the additional LCHIP funds might go to municipalities thus increasing their revenues.

New Hampshire Association of Counties states there would be no fiscal impact on county revenue or expenditures.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

NH Department of Revenue Administration, New Hampshire Association of Counties and LCHIP