LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB244

Bill as Introduced

SB 244 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2935 08/11

SENATE BILL

244

AN ACT

relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

SPONSORS:

Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16

COMMITTEE:

Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill makes allowances for certain non-conforming structures and makes changes to the definition of subdivision.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

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30 31 relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

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

- 1 New Paragraph; Non-conforming Structures; Conversion. Amend RSA 674:72 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:
- XI. Subject to the provisions of this chapter, an existing non-conforming structure shall be allowed to be converted to an accessory dwelling unit provided the nonconformities are not increased.
- 2 Powers of Zoning Board of Adjustment; Special Conditions Removed. Amend RSA 674:33, I(b)(2) to read as follows:
- (2) If the criteria in subparagraph (1) are not established, an unnecessary hardship will be deemed to exist if, and only if, [owing to special conditions of the property that distinguish it from other properties in the area,] the property cannot be reasonably used in strict conformance with the ordinance, and a variance is therefore necessary to enable a reasonable use of it.
 - 3 Subdivision; Definitions. Amend RSA 485-A:2, XIII to read as follows:

XIII. "Subdivision" means the division of a tract or parcel of land into 2 or more lots, tracts, or parcels for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale, rent, lease, building development, or any other reason; provided, however, that sale or other conveyance which involves merely an exchange of land among 2 or more owners and which does not increase the number of owners, and on which no sewage disposal system is to be constructed shall not be deemed a subdivision for the purposes of this chapter. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, subdivision shall include re-subdivision, and, in the case of a lot, tract or parcel previously rented or leased, the sale, condominium conveyance, or other conveyance thereof; provided however that a re-subdivision of lots in previously approved subdivisions, where lot lines are relocated to conform to necessary changes in the plans because of errors in a survey or new street, access or siting requirements, or errors in building locations, and where the lot sizes are not substantially altered shall not be deemed a subdivision for the purposes of this chapter; and provided further that a re-subdivision in which previously approved lots are grouped together to form larger lots shall not be deemed a subdivision for the purposes of this chapter. The division of a parcel of land held in common and subsequently divided into parts among the several owners shall be deemed a subdivision under this chapter. The conversion of existing improvements, whether conforming or otherwise, to the condominium form of ownership shall not be deemed a subdivision under this chapter provided the conversion does not increase the number of existing bedrooms or expand the footprints of existing structures.

SB 244 - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

1 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Amendments

Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16 January 24, 2022 2022-0220s 08/11

Amendment to SB 244

Amend the bill by inserting after section 3 the following and renumbering the original section 4 to read as 5:

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4 Detached Accessory Dwelling Units. Amend RSA 674:73 to read as follows:

674:73 Detached Accessory Dwelling Units. A municipality is not required to but may permit detached accessory dwelling units. Detached accessory dwelling units shall comply with the requirements of, and any municipal ordinances or regulations adopted pursuant to, RSA 674:72, IV through IX, and the primary building setback established in RSA 483-B:9, II(b) when located within protected shorelands. If a municipality allows detached accessory dwelling units, it may require an increased lot size.

Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE Election Law and Municipal Affairs

Sen James Gray, Chair Sen Regina Birdsell, Vice Chair Sen Ruth Ward, Member Sen Donna Soucy, Member Sen Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Member

Date: January 18, 2022

HEARINGS

Monday			01/24/2022			
Election La	w and Municipa	l Affairs	State House 100	1:00 p.m.		
(Name of Committee)			(Place)	(Time)		
1:00 p.m.	SB 243	permitting tr	ansfer on death deeds for real pro	perty.		
1:15 p.m.	SB 244	relative to no	n-conforming structures and vari	ances.		
1:30 p.m.	SB 245	and municipa	a committee to study agreements alities on municipal trash removal a owners and renters.			
1:45 p.m.	SB 246	relative to qu	alified private communities.			
2:00 p.m.	SB 425-FN	relative to th	e establishment of an election info	ormation portal.		
2:20 p.m.	SB 427-FN		e absentee voter registration proc and absentee ballot voting process			

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors: SB 243 Rep. B. Griffin Sen. D'Allesandro Sen. Cavanaugh SB 244 Sen. Cavanaugh SB 245 Rep. Mangipudi Sen. Soucy Sen. Sherman Sen. Watters Rep. Guthrie SB 246 Sen. Birdsell Sen. Carson Rep. W. MacDonald SB 425-FN Sen. Avard Sen. Daniels Sen. Gray Sen. Bradley Sen. Perkins Kwoka Sen. French Sen. Ward Sen. Birdsell Sen. Sherman Sen. Watters Sen. Soucy SB 427-FN Sen. Watters Sen. Whitley Sen. Rosenwald Sen. Soucy

Sen. Perkins Kwoka

Sen. Kahn

Tricia Melillo 271-3077

Sen. Sherman Sen. D'Allesandro

> <u>James P. Gray</u> Chairman

Sen. Prentiss

Sen. Cavanaugh

Rep. Cote

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee

Tricia Melillo 271-3077

SB 244, relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

Hearing Date:

January 24, 2022

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gray, Birdsell, Ward, Soucy and Perkins Kwoka

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis: This bill makes allowances for certain non-conforming structures and makes changes to the definition of subdivision.

Sponsors:

Sen. Cavanaugh

Who supports the bill: Senator Kevin Cavanaugh, John Cronin, Len Galvin, Jill Galvin, Chris Norwood, Robert Ouellete, Lori Ouellete, Ric Ouellete

Who opposes the bill: Natch Greyes (NHMA), Philip Trowbridge (DES)

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Kevin Cavanaugh

- This legislation was the request of his constituent Attorney John Cronin.
- The bill makes allowances for certain non-conforming structures and makes changes to the definition of subdivision.
- After speaking to the department last week, he is now offering an amendment to the first section, #0220s.
- He knows the department had some more questions and he is willing to amend the other two sections if it will help both sides come to a compromise.
- Senator Perkins Kwoka asked what the problem is that this legislation tries to solve.
 - Senator Cavanaugh replied that with the amendment, if there was a primary structure and you had another building closer to the water front it would protect the shore line.

John Cronin

- This bill is supported by people within both parties.
- There are three independent parts to the legislation.
- The first section deals with Accessory Dwelling Units and is not very controversial.
- In his practice he has come across cases where people have an outbuilding that was built long ago and may not need a current setback.
- Current zoning may have changed to say the setback is now 20ft from the side yard line, where this building is at 15ft but has been there for a long time.
- Some communities say they can't consider an ADU because it is not consistent with current zoning.
- He agrees with the goal of the amendment but has some concerns with the language.
- He believes that DES does not mind about some of the remote side setbacks away from the water, which a great majority of these ADUs are.
- They do not want someone that has an ADU 25ft from the waterline converting it to living space.

- He has no problem with that and believes they can accommodate DES with that request and
 make it a win/win situation.
- The second section of the bill relates to the special conditions category and unnecessary hardship.
- In this special conditions language section, a lot of Judges have problems with it but local communities understand it and can manage it.
- The variance test has five prongs to it and someone seeking a variance has to show, that it is in the public interest, the spirit of the ordinance, will grant substantial justice, will not diminish the value of surrounding properties and that there is an unnecessary hardship.
- They are not seeking to remove any of those.
- The special conditions language is a vague and subjective standard and it is very hard to understand.
- They are just looking to strike the special conditions language which is confusing it will not take away any power from the municipalities as the five conditions for a variance will still exist.
- He believes this is a housekeeping measure.
- Subsection 13 relating to subdivisions is the most substantive and the one that will have the most impact to property owners.
- It is not property specific legislation as there are a number of old cabin communities on the lakes in NH.
- There is a property called Sandy Point, in Alton, owned by the Ouellete family for three generations.
- Development started there in the late 20s.
- They have had a restaurant and a lot of different improvements made to the property over the years.
- He explained the binder of information that he gave the committee.
- Tab 1 is support from Representative Varney.
- Tab 2 is the over 100 signatures from supporters of the bill.
- Tab 3 is the Condominium Act which allows conversion of existing improvements.
- Tab 4 is tax information.
- The family was approached by a NH developer who was interested in buying their property.
- They came to an understanding with the family that the price range would be about 12.5 million.
- The current assessment of the property is 2.6 million and generates about \$29,000 in tax revenue per year.
- If these building were allowed to be converted to condominiums, there would be additional capital improvement to renovate the existing buildings, remove the restaurant, add green space and a brand new septic system.
- If this is redeveloped the septic system will be about 75% compliant when it is now only about 25% because of its age.
- They have talked to DES and the town of Alton has looked favorably on this project.
- DES told him that they cannot provide a waiver for this because it relates to the definition of a subdivision.
- This cries out for a waiver because there is no affect to the water quality per the impact studies.
- All they are asking in this bill is that the definition of subdivision not apply to the conversion to condominium of an existing structure, provided that the building footprint nor the number of bedrooms are increased.
- They believe this bill will have tremendous impact of tax revenue not only on this property but many others, without a tremendous impact on services.
- Senator Perkins Kwoka asked what his concerns were on the amendment.
- Mr. Cronin replied that the amendment takes out the language that they had proposed to allow existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to accessory dwellings. His thought was that they could add, 50ft beyond the reference line and that would satisfy DES.

- Senator Perkins Kwoka asked what he is referencing when he says "non-conforming", the lot, the structure or both.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied he means non-conforming to municipal ordinances.
- Senator Perkins Kwoka asked if is intended for the structure or the lot or both.
 - o Mr. Cronin answered both.
- Senator Perkins Kwoka commented that section two is a big change as it takes away some
 authority from the zoning board and its adjudicatory function to determine when there may be
 special conditions to approve a variance and asked what justification is there to make this
 change.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied that there are very few cases that focus on special conditions and most of them look at the hardship prongs specifically and they are not trying to eradicate that
- Senator Perkins Kwoka asked him to clarify if in most cases, under most ordinances conversion to condominiums would not trigger a subdivision.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied that 356:B has a specific section on that. It prohibits municipalities from refusing to allow a property owner to convert to a condominium form of ownership but that does not extend to the state or legislative bodies.
- Senator Ward stated that they are discussing the conversion of a building to condominiums and asked what that has to do with the amendment and dealing with ADUs.
 - o Mr. Cronin answered that they are not related all. The three sections are of the bill are independent of each other.
- Senator Gray asked if this conversion causes a property to be more non-conforming he does not see why they should take the planning people of a town or city out of the process.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied that this does not. In the zoning statute it allows communities to review condominium conversions. It is not the goal of this bill to make anything more non-conforming. There is no language or intent to deprive the municipality from the review that they currently undertake.
- Senator Gray asked if all of the conditions that DES would want in a septic system for this type of community would be covered.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied that the DES rules on septic systems are generated by soil quality and lot area. It takes into consideration, bedrooms, kitchens and sinks but all of the density is based on bedrooms. That is why in the language there are no increase in bedrooms or footprints.
- Senator Gray asked if it is never going to comply with the new laws, why would he want to
 approve it without either reducing the number of buildings so that at some point it would come
 into compliance.
 - o Mr. Cronin replied that as with many others, the septic will then stay the same as it is, with an old system cleaned and maintained and the goal here is to improve.

Len Galvin

- There are many properties around the state that are beautiful but have facilities and utilities that have aged over time.
- These properties continue to be lived in or be operated as businesses using existing infrastructure that are substandard to today's technology.
- This bill will help bring them up to today's standards by allowing developers to repurpose old properties into newer homes and condominiums.
- There are many homes and businesses that will keep the same inferior systems going until they
- SB 244 will help our states housing challenges and help upgrade facilities to conform to the codes of today.

Jill Galvin

- Since 1929 her family have done their best to maintain and upgrade the property as needed.
- This bill will allow the property to be updated and closer to conformity.
- Allowing the conversion would have a positive impact on the town tax base, the environment, and aesthetically improve some of the aging buildings.
- They are not able to provide the work that needs to be done to improve the property.
- The septic system is very dated and it needs a complete overhaul.
- A condominium community would give the property new life and love that they are unable to provide.
- They have well over 200 signatures in support.

Chris Norwood - Association of Realtors

- He is in favor of the first section and the amendment with a little tweaking is a reasonable solution.
- In general, they are for private property rights and if there is an old building in the setback that could have future use as an ADU, this is reasonable proposal.
- In section 2, he agrees that removing the special conditions language will allow for better clarity.
- With the existing improvements, it basically codifies that a subdivision is not triggered by a condominium conversion.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition:

Natch Greyes - NH Municipal Association

- They do not have any issues with the first section as long it is not going to expand the nonconformity, it is not a big change.
- They are opposed to the second section regarding variances.
- Variances are only granted because of the special conditions of a property.
- If this change were to go through it would significantly relax the granting of variances under 674:33-I-B2.
- It would not change the standard under I-B1 but it could have a substantial change in how the zoning board operates.
- This is not a municipal problem it is a training problem with Superior Court Judges.
- They do not think it is fair to change the rules for municipalities when they are clearly following the law.
- They are concerned with how section three will function in reality.

Philip Trowbridge - NH DES

- Section four of the bill proposes to change the definition of subdivision by excluding condominium conversions if there are no changes to the structure or the number of bedrooms.
- They do not agree with this change.
- Any subdivision of land that is not served by municipal water and sewer needs to get a septic system approval from DES.
- For this approval, DES needs to look at can whether or not the lot on which the structures are located can manage and treat all the wastewater generated.
- The review process is important in order to protect the interests of the buyer, public health and water quality.
- The vast majority of homes in our state use wells for drinking water and if you have a septic system that does not meet state standards now, it puts the property owner as well as their neighbors at risk of illness.

- Failed septic systems release nutrients in surface waters resulting in problems like algae
- They often see proposals for condominium conversions to old waterfront camps that have multiple cabins.
- In most cases the lot is too small and the septic system does not meet state standards.
- When the septic systems on these properties fail, they needs to be replaced with one that meets current state standards.
- This creates two problems it may be impossible to put a septic system on the property that meets
 the lot loading requirements and the newer systems may require more lot space.
- A single home owner can make decisions and adjustments to meet requirements.
- Once the property is converted to multiple owners may make making those adjustment impossible.
- They think it is the responsible thing for everyone involved to obtain the septic approval before beginning the condominium conversion.
- In some cases, septic systems don't fail but that is because they are in failure.
- DES feels that identifying systems during a condominium conversion is the best way to protect public health and the environment.
- He agrees that it is better to make improvements to an old system than to leave it in failure.
- The problem with doing that is there are certain setbacks and other requirements that DES is not allowed to wave.
- If a developer is making the septic system only 75% compliant DES would need to wave one of those requirements which they are not allowed to do for anyone else.
- DES recommends SB 244 be approved only if the definition of subdivision is removed.

TJM
Date Hearing Report completed: January 31, 2022

Speakers

Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: January 24, 2022 Time: 1:15 p.m.

SB 244

AN ACT relative to non-conforming structures and variances

PRIME: Senator Cavanaugh

	Name/Representing (please print neatly)					
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	John Cronin	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
\checkmark	OLEN Galvin -	Support 🛂	Oppose _	Speaking?	Yes	No
V	Al Cadum	Support .	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
V	- Notch Greyes (NHMA)	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes X	No □
V	Philip Trombnidge (NH DES)	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes 🔼	No
V	Pubert Oulleto	Support 🔼	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
X	Robert Oulleto	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
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Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: January 24, 2022 Time: 1:15 p.m.

SB 244

AN ACT relative to non-conforming structures and variances

PRIME: Senator Cavanaugh

Name/Representing (please print neatly)					
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
Cori Ovellete Ric Ovellete	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes 🔲	N _o
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	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No

Senate Remote Testify

Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee Testify List for Bill SB244 on 202: Support: 1 Oppose: 0

Name Pollack, Ari <u>Title</u>

A Lobbyist

Representing

NH Homebuilders

Position

Support

Testimony



The State of New Hampshire

Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

January 21, 2022

The Honorable James Gray Chairman, Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee State House, Room 100 Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 244, AN ACT relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 244. This bill makes allowances for certain non-conforming structures by amending RSA 674:72 with regard to accessory dwelling units (ADU) and makes changes to the definition of subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, VIII. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) supports the portion of the bill regarding ADUs with a suggested amendment discussed below. NHDES has concerns about the portion of the bill relative to changes to the definition of subdivision.

The bill proposes to amend the language in RSA 674:72 regarding ADUs. NHDES supports this proposed change provided that the requirements in RSA 674:72, V, regarding water supply and sewage disposal, continue to apply to the ADU conversion. In addition to the proposed amendment, NHDES suggests modifying the language of RSA 674:73, Detached Accessory Dwelling Units, to read:

"A municipality is not required to but may permit detached accessory dwelling units. Detached accessory dwelling units shall comply with the requirements of, and any municipal ordinances or regulations adopted pursuant to, RSA 674:72, IV through IX and the primary building setback established in RSA 483-B:9, II, (b) when located within protected shorelands. If a municipality allows detached accessory dwelling units, it may require an increased lot size."

This change would be beneficial to both homeowners and municipalities by calling attention to existing legal requirements earlier in the planning stages of projects. This will prevent the loss of time and avoid costs by ensuring that owners are informed and investing in design proposals that are not prohibited by overlapping, existing law.

The bill also proposed to amend RSA 485-A:2, XIII regarding the definition of subdivision. NHDES has concerns about this portion of the bill. Currently, the definition of Subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, XIII requires subdivision approval from NHDES be obtained prior to converting an existing single owner property to a condominium. The purpose of the subdivision approval process is, in part, to determine if the lot on which the structure(s) is located can manage and treat all the wastewater generated. It is important to maintain this requirement for NHDES. The Honorable James Gray
Chairman, Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee
January 21, 2022
Page 2

subdivision approval of condominium conversions in order to protect the interests of the buyer, public health and water quality.

A prime example of why NHDES subdivision approval of condominium conversions is important is with existing, grandfathered (existing prior to applicable regulations) cabin resorts that are owned by one individual or company. Typically, these cabin resorts were built on substandard lots where the wastewater load generated by the cabins exceeds the lot's capacity to adequately manage and treat the wastewater. In addition, many of the sewage or waste disposal systems (septic systems) supporting the cabins also pre-date current regulations and laws promulgated in 1967. A septic system that pre-dates those laws would now be at least 55 years old with the possibility that the system no longer meets current standards and/or adequately treats wastewater.

Septic systems have a finite lifespan and, when these grandfathered systems fail, they often must be replaced with much larger systems to meet current standards. RSA 485-A:33, IV only allows for the replacement of a septic system, "in-kind" if the system being replaced was previously state approved. If a septic system(s) needs to be replaced and/or relocated to meet current standards, and the property is owned by one individual or company, that individual or company can manage the property to take whatever steps are needed to accommodate the new, larger system. This may include the removal of a structure to reduce the wastewater load or to properly locate the system on the lot to meet current standards. Conversely, if the cabins are converted to condominiums and each cabin is owned individually, the individual property rights may make it impossible to find a place to construct a replacement system that accommodates all properties on site. In such a case, it is likely that one or more of the individual properties would not be able to site a septic system to meet their needs. Therefore, requiring subdivision approval for a condominium conversion ensures the purchaser is buying a property that can meet all applicable laws and rules relative to wastewater management.

Having compliant, functioning septic systems is crucial to protecting the groundwater and water quality in lakes, ponds, and streams. Considering the large percentage of private drinking water wells in the State of New Hampshire, protecting the groundwater is critical to the protection of human health. Further, many cabin resorts referenced above are located on lakes, ponds, and rivers throughout the State of New Hampshire. Compliant, functioning septic systems play a significant role in protecting these very important resources.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this legislation. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Robert Tardif, Subsurface Systems Bureau Administrator at 603-271-2904 or robert.a.tardif@des.nh.gov or Darlene Forst, Wetlands Bureau Administrator at 603-271-4054 or darlene.c.forst@des.nh.gov.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Scott
Commissioner

Roberta Side

ec: Sponsor of SB 244: Senator Cavanaugh

The undersigned, all being residents and voters in the State of New Hampshire, hereby express their support for the passage of Senate Bill 244 to allow pre-existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to condominiums, provided there is no expansion of the building footprint or number of bedrooms.

Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Chi B Build Coll Respect M. Rand. Allon NH 603-409.2249
Name Address & Phone Number
Many & Barrello 641 Prospect Min Rd Alton NH 603 630 9052
Name,/Agaiess & Fhone Number
Super S. Bassett 18 Dobbins Way ALTON, N.H. 603-559-67
regille, Address & Phone Pumber
Morner 9. Barrett 18 Dobbin Way alton N.H 603-859-010.
Catherine A. fraser 574 Stockhridge, Corver Rd Alton, NH 613-496-3452. Name: Address & Phone Number
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Alberia Deal HB- 355 Rand Hill Rd Alton Bay N. H. 03810 603 875 209,
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Debra Sandhage 68 Dan Kelley, Dr. Alton Bay, NH 03810 (603) 345-652°
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Brianna Ovellette 59 Crown Point Dr. Dever NH 03880 Goz-998-6039 Name, Address & Phone Number G. D.
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number (FLS) Name, Address & Phone Number Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number

The undersigned, all being residents and voters in the State of New Hampshire, hereby express their support for the passage of Senate Bill 244 to allow pre-existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to condominiums, provided there is no expansion of the building footprint or number of bedrooms.

Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Dated on or near January 19, 2022.		•
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The undersigned, all being residents and voters in the State of New Hampshire, hereby express their support for the passage of Senate Bill 244 to allow pre-existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to condominiums, provided there is no expansion of the building footprint or number of bedrooms.

Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Kara Chase 41 Christy Lone Belmut NH 03220
Name, Address & Phone Number
Kora Chase 41 Christy Lone Belmut, NH 03226 Name, Address & Phone Number Con tesser 25 Poor Fam Rd author B249
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number Reuber Russ At 48 Howard Rd Gil martin FW 03837 Name, Address & Phone Number
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Mike Tessier 25 Poor Farm Rd Gilford NHB
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Chis Drescher, 8 Skyline Drive, Brookline, NH 03033
Name, Address & Phone Number
Chris Drescher, 8 Skyline Drive, Brookline, NH 03033 Name, Address & Phone Number Myda Augn, 32 Donna Ar., Penbroke, NH 03275 (603) 340-3104 Name, Address & Rhone Number
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Liam O'Bijen 21 Sanborn Rd. Concord 60	3-717-8038
Name, Address & Phone Number	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Carolyo O'Brien 21 Sanborn Rd. Corcord Name, Address & Phone Number	603-410-9837
Name, Address & Phone Number	- 2211 (2 (
Colin O'Brica 21 Samborn Rd. Concord	603-554-6360
Name, Address & Phone Number	110 000
Holen OBrien Morrill Lane Concord	603-919-0263
Name, Address & Phone Number	
Herri Cleary 54 County Dr., Plymorth Name, Address & Phone Number	603-536-5383
Rebecca Dutcher 4 Cedar Lane Bow Name, Address & Phone Number	603-540-617
Derek Dutcher 4 Cedar Lane Bow Name, Address & Phone Number	
Mary Hogan 4 Morrill Lane Conco Name, Address & Phone Number	ord 603-315-380.
Quinn Hogan A Morrill Lane Concor Name, Address & Phone Number	rd 603-315-3801
ZJAMES STOMBE SO OMEMONT CON	enn 603 345 6440
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CHRISTINE GALLANT 3 FOXCROSS CIECLE, CONCARD (603) 848-6445 Christine Galland
Name, Address & Phone Number
Ma-/c A. Placy 52 Heywerd Brook Drive (603) 987-4187 Mullelly Name, Address & Phone Number
MICHAEL J. BUJOLD 13 DAKAN ONT DR. CORN 603496-79 TTARK
Availity Address & Phone Number
Nume, Address & Phong Number 102 Sewalls Falls Rd (Quad No 350)
Name Address & Phone Number 3 FAINIEW DT Concord NH 03301 674-8463
Sadle Perter 21 Bradley & Concord, NH 0330 340 1624
Sara Rogers & Tylane, Penawork, WH 603 Name, Address & Blane Number
Name Address & Phone Number 27 Foxeross Corele, Concard NH (603224190
Name, Address & Phone Number
Alec Snow 87 Tilton Bridge Rd, Sanbornton, NH, 6056308948
Name, Address & Phone Number

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Dated on or near January 19, 2	2022.
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79 Oakmont de	Concord NH 03301
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DAM 55 CAKMENT DR CONCORD WH
Name, Address & Phone Number

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Sausur Jam 4 CHECKERBERRY LANE, CONCORD 603-832-35 Name, Address & Phone Number
Patricia folsey 27 Dudley Drue, Concord (603) 496-4057 Name, Address & Phone Number
Andrew Folge 1 1 Bulley Drive Concord 603 998-3558
Name, Address & Phone Number
Simon Forscer 11 Wagner St, Keene (603) 715-1358
Name, Address & Phone Number
Temme 1 whh J. 4 Checkerberry Come, Concord 603-860-0730
Name, Address & Phone Number
Don OBrien 21 Sanborn Dr. Concord NH 603-224-6260
Name, Address & Phone Number 603-765-1450
Bonin 12 / 26 Oakment Dr. Concord, NH
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Name, Address & Phone Number Name, Address & Phone Number 603-225-2385
Name, Address & Phone Number 603 - 225 - 2385
HILL M. Calle 40 Oalement Dr. Cencord, NH
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Mishael Trussells 40 Orkmont Dr. Comord, NH
Name, Address & Phone Number

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David C_Morrill, 285 East	10220 8-14
991/11	
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She Seen 30 Oakmont Dr. Concord, NH (613) 674-8610
Name, Address & Phone Number
Olivio Roinchaud 36 Oak Mont Dr. Concord, WH (603) 35 Name, Address & Phone Number AbiGail PAIN Chaid 36 Oak mont In Concord NH (603) 5 Name Address & Phone Number
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JASON (ARTER 574 No	ETH Rd , Epson	, NH 03234	(603) 43:	5-6566
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JOSAPH GAGNUN 57	Eassnaw Rd	Lacovia NY	603 528	4692
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Name, Address & Phone Number	Mouth Rd.	PISON DH	03234	603-435-1
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Kalligh Comin	1B Roberts Rd. Gilford, NH 03249	603-361-3593
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Michael Lenis 233 N. Ashland PA Ashland Mb. 607.48-0111)
Name, Address & Phone Number
273 LAAVITT RD BELMONT NH 03220 (603) 387-8409
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77 Mark Dr. Lacasia NH 03246 603-723-4382
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PAN ROWSEY HOLLANGEY 300 FORD STATIO MANCHETER NA 03101 603-366-6500
Name, Address & Phone Number
For BUDER 890 Rt 140 GILMENTON NH 03837
Name, Address & Phone Number 605-731-1858

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CARIS RICE, 5 SOUTH BOW ROAD, HOOKSEM, 14 03	106 (603) 785-7289
Name, Address & Phone Number	
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Mark Condodemetraky, 635 Main Street Laconia, NH 03246 60	3-524-8023	
Name, Address & Phone Number Mark Condolonated	1/19/2022	
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Name, Address & Plone Number	ne Arthur Or. Londonderry, NH 603-452-4572
Name (Address & Phone Number Stationary 11 X	Min Cithor CT Londonderry, UH 603-452-4572 Min Cithor TD Londerd or 4 24 603-452-45712
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Dated on or near January 19, 202	2.					
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DAVED GHOUNGLULT, 725 Name, Address & Phone Number	5 -157	Ammoth 121	o may	CHESTER	NH	Odet
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Joseph M. Wichert, L.L.S. 802 Amherst Street, Manchester, NH 03104	Joseph M. Wichert
Name, Address & Phone Number	
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Dated on or near January 19, 2022.			
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

John	Caneron	42	Shirley	May	Mirror Labor	603-520-45
Name, Address	s & Phone Number					
Name. Address	Henne /	49 Bira	h Hill Rd	Nav Drop	am NH 43855	603-884-1932
Chepy Same, Address	Krivitsky & Phone Number	49 Pear	son Rd	Alton,	NH 03809	603-387-2583
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LETTION IN BUILD ON COLUBERATE BILL 244

The undersigned, all being residents and voters in the State of New Hampshire, hereby express their support for the passage of Senate Bill 244 to allow pre-existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to condominiums, provided there is no expansion of the building footprint or number of bedrooms.

Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

John Buzyaski	16 Gertrude	Rd Windha	u NH. 03087
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Name, Address & Phone Number
Melisia Vinde 3 Londonsing Rd Washan, NH 03087(603)434.34. Name, Address & Phone Number 603-785-823 2 03045 252 PANIE PLUMMEZ 12D GOFFS TWO-4
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Robert lingle 81 Heriture Hinero WWW. 603) -9875
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Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

John BARKER 136 TEN ROD RD. 603-973-6849 Name, Address & Phone Number
Trena BARKER 136 TENRODRd. 603.973-6849
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BONBARKER 136 TENRED RD 603-973-6849
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CHAYNNA BARKER 136 BTENRODRD 663-973-6849
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Ricky Finetry 384 New Durham Rd 603-998-3376
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Mark Thomas 4/6 Austin Rid Alton Bay pold 603-387-gr
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Jeanette Drapeau 128 Valley RE New Durham N 4 603-337-556 Name Address & Phone Number
Jeff Drapeau 127 Valley RE New Dusham: N H 603-33). 5565
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Dennis Berry 101 Valley RE New Durban NH 603-859-8471
Name, Address & Phone Number

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bob ForsyTHE 250 lover bil Rd (603) 767-9836 Name. Address & Phone Number
Sam Forsythe 3 Cemetery Rd (603-)312-2288
Gaelyn Dayer 3 Cemetery RA. 603-856-1723
Brittony Burby 49B Agamenticus of. 603-973-7879
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Mara Bradbury 20 Gobero Rd Epson, NH 03234 (603) 486-8308 Name/Address & Phone Number
Ly Mola Maloloro 16 CROSCONT RD, MANNOSCR, NA 03/03 Name, Address & Phone Number
Ruhh Colinia 37 From Tuck way walfeboro, NH 0389 Name, Address & Phone Number
John Toda 364 Hall Rd Barrington N.H. 03825
Michael Galofals 28 S. Cirktsville Re Con Coro NH 03301 Name, Address & Phone Number
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Rame Address & Phone Number Concaro. N. H. 03301
Name, Address & Phone Number 136 SHATE ROSD CONCAD N. H. 0330)
Andrew Marfield 1187 long street Webster, NH 03303 Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Synn Morin 28 Reservoir Has, Plymouth, NH 03264 603-481-2055 Name, Address & Phone Number
Brent Johnson 20 Roland Dr Allenstown NH-03275 Name, Address & Phone Number Washington Goncord. NH. 03301-
Name, Address & Phone Number
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Name, Address & Phone Number
Name. Address & Phone Number

John Cronin, 1089 Chestaut St., Manchester, Mylosio4 (603) 759-1952
Narrie Address & Phore Number
Facheurs fauls hulf 36 ochmont Prive, convoid NH, 603505841
Name, Address & Phone Number
D-M. 1a 40 DAKMONT DR, CONCORD NH 603-225-2385
Name Address & Phone Number
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Name, Address & Phone Number
[30 GROTON) L. CONCONS, NH (603) 305-2735
Name, Address & Phone Number
Advin Shunder 38 Groben Drive Concord NH 603) 496 1503 Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Maureen Simpson 13 Dominique Dr. Concord, NH 603738-9517 Name, Address & Phone Number
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Name, Address & Phone Number
Madrison Supson 73 Dominique Dr. Concord NH 603715-5173
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Name, Address & Phone Number
Colly School (n Boscawen, NH 05303
Name, Address & Phone Number
Holly Drogane 81 St Holdwar Rd. Dursenten, NH 03046
Name, Address & Phone Number
James M. Triacan 262 Hopkinton Rd Concord NH 03301-7911
Name, Address & Phone Number
Ron Radiad 110 Frost Rd U Hoverhill n4
Name, Address & Phone Number
aug Charty 38 Oakmont Dr Concord NH 03301.
Name, Address & Phone Number 603 - 206-488/

PETITION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 244
Name, Address & Phone Number
Dandel Erving 59 Schow RD. Apt 718 Novolfield NH 03276
Name, Address & Phone Number Lison Young 55 Brown Hill Rd, WH > Belmont, 03220 Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Savannah Frede Ho 73 breckenrige way unit 23 Laconia NH 03246 Name, Address & Phone Number 603 393 7113
Meghan Mitchell 408 Central St Unit 4 Fronklin NH 03235 (603-630-051) Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number Harel & Maloney 890 NH R+140 Gilmanton Iw NH03837 1157 Name, Address & Phone Number
Name Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name Address & Phone Number 155 E. MANN ST. Tilton, NH 03276
Robert Banon 36 M; Nie's Circle Campton NH 1320-3 THE Name, Address & Phone Number 603-582-3866
Name, Address & Phone Number
Nesse, Address & Phone Number 813 Country Club Rad, Lacina, NI+03241
Nome Address & Photos Number 272 Lake She Dr Fralle, NH 03235-603-93.
Take Beatthe 883 Weirs BlvD. Unil 15 Layonia, 144 03246 Name, Address & Phone Number
ranto, radioso de ruono rantos.

The undersigned, all being residents and voters in the State of New Hampshire, hereby express their support for the passage of Senate Bill 244 to allow pre-existing, non-conforming structures to be converted to condominiums, provided there is no expansion of the building footprint or number of bedrooms.

Your vote to pass the bill is requested.

Julie Gustosson 51, B. 1111	(603)
Name, Address & Phone Number	ew Lane Tourstort 14
Robert Gusta Sson 56 Bella View la Name, Address & Phone Number	me Pochester N.H 6603835
Name, Address & Phone Number	03867
Name, Address & Phone Number	em n. H. 08855 (605-859-40)
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	0925
Leo Breton - 50 Blackstone Dr Name, Address & Phone Number	Raymond N. N. 03047
Lu anne Laita - 18 Surrey Ru. Name, Address & Phone Number	n The Paddock Dove, W.A. OC
Name, Address & Phone Number	(L03-842-22)
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Name, Address & Phone Number	603- 859-7150
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Olice MURRAY 90 Bella View lane 603-817-1933
Name, Address & Phone Number
Jeff Murray 90 Bella View lane 603-498-4038 Name, Address & Phone Number
Bon Algeni 119 School 5h Koeno NH (603) 398-6071
Name, Address & Phone Number Shannon 193 Sampson Rd Rochester (603) 767=5459
Name, Address & Phone Number Chris Shanon 123 Sampson Rd. Rochester (403-310171) Name, Address & Phone Number
Brittany Drascau 128 Valley RZ Hew Duchem N# 603-337-5572 Name, Address & Phone Number
Travis Drapeau 18 Appleton 5+ Keene NH 603-337-5571 Name, Address & Phone Number
Bob Burton 138 Merrill 54 Gillard NA 603 387 2466 Name, Address & Phone Number 603 387 2242
Bobert Ouelletto 82 Bella View Lune Richaston NH
Name, Address & Phone Number Lon' Quellette 82 Bella View Lane Rochester Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number Ric Alden 526 East Side Dr. Alton Bay NH 603 707 6278 Name, Address & Phone Number
Cathy Alden 526 East Side Dr Alton Buy w H 603707 0278 Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number
Name, Address & Phone Number

John G. Cronin

٠pm:

Len < Imetric@comcast.net>

Sent:

Sunday, January 23, 2022 2:26 PM

To:

John Cronin

Subject:

Fwd: SB244

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Peter Varney <<u>pvarney@atsnh.com</u>>
Date: January 23, 2022 at 12:31:52 PM EST

To: lmetric@comcast.net

Subject: SB244

I have lived in the town of Alton my entire life and am currently serving my 4th consecutive term as State Representative for Alton. I attended a meeting at DES and I am in full support of Senate Bill 244.

Respectfully submitted, Peter R Varney NH State Representative Belknap District 5

C: 603-765-6380

TITLE XXXI TRADE AND COMMERCE

CHAPTER 356-B CONDOMINIUM ACT

I. General Principles

Section 356-B:5

such by reason of the form of ownership inherent therein. Neither shall any condominium be treated differently by any zoning or other land use ordinance which would permit a physically identical project or development under a different form of ownership. No subdivision ordinance in any city or town shall apply to any condominium or to any subdivision of any convertible land, convertible space, or unit unless such ordinance is by its express terms made applicable thereto. Nevertheless, cities and towns may provide by ordinance that proposed conversion condominiums and the use thereof which do not conform to the zoning, land use and site plan regulations of the respective city or town in which the property is located shall secure a special use permit, a special exception, or variance, as the case may be, prior to becoming a conversion condominium. In the event of an approved conversion to condominiums, cities, towns, village districts, or other political subdivisions may impose such charges and fees as are lawfully imposed by such political subdivisions as a result of construction of new structures to the extent that such charges and fees, or portions of such charges and fees, imposed upon property subject to such conversions may be reasonably related to greater or additional services provided by the political subdivision as a result of the conversion.

Source. 1977, 468:1, eff. Sept. 10, 1977.

KeyCite Yellow Flag - Negative Treatment

Not Followed on State Law Grounds Appeal of Lowe, Vt., September
1, 1995

134 N.H. 425 Supreme Court of New Hampshire.

Gabriel COHEN

v.

TOWN OF HENNUKER.

No. 90–335. | July 8, 1991.

Synopsis

Owner of nonconforming unit applied for subdivision approval to convert apartment units into condominiums. Planning board denied application and property owner appealed. The Superior Court, Merrimack County, McGuire, J., upheld denial. Property owner appealed. The Supreme Court, Johnson, J., held that planning board had authority to deny subdivision approval only if condominium conversion would affect land use and because neither board nor Superior Court made finding that conversion would affect land use, remand to board was required.

Reversed and remanded.

Procedural Posture(s): On Appeal.

West Headnotes (3)

Zoning and Planning Questions or errors of law

Zoning and Planning Questions of fact; findings

Supreme Court will uphold decision of superior court in zoning case unless its decision is not supported by evidence or is legally erroneous.

- 1 Cases that cite this headnote
- [2] Zoning and Planning Particular prior or nonconforming uses

Zoning and Planning Particular prior or nonconforming uses

Municipality may require permit, exception, or variance prior to conversion to condominiums even where there exists protected nonconforming use; however, requirement may only be denied if conversion were to have actual effect on use of land. RSA 21:1, 356–B:5.

- 3 Cases that cite this headnote
- [3] Zoning and Planning Particular prior or nonconforming uses

Zoning and Planning - Directing further action by local authority

Planning board was authorized to deny owner of nonconforming use subdivision approval to convert rental units into condominiums only if conversion would affect land use and because neither board nor superior court made finding that conversion would affect land use, remand was required to board. RSA 21:1, 356—B:5.

2 Cases that cite this headnote

Attorneys and Law Firms

**1146 *425 Charles H. Morang, of Concord, by brief and orally, for plaintiff.

Nixon, Hall & Hess P.A., of Manchester (David W. Hess, on the brief and orally), for defendant.

Opinion

JOHNSON, Justice.

The plaintiff appeals an order of the Superior Court (McGuire, J.) upholding the denial by the Renniked Planning Board *426 (the board) of his application for subdivision approval to convert seven apartment units into condominiums. The plaintiff argues that the board's denial was improper given his prior nonconforming use of the property. We agree and, therefore, reverse the order of the superior court.

The facts in this case are straightforward. The plaintiff owns two apartment buildings containing seven rental units. The buildings are located on a single 1.38-acre lot on Flanders

Road in <u>Henriker</u>. The town of <u>Henriker</u> had no zoning ordinances when the buildings were constructed.

On July 8, 1988, the plaintiff applied to the board for subdivision approval to convert the seven rental apartments into condominiums. The property in question did not satisfy the zoning requirements for its zone at the time of the application, being deficient both as to lot size and frontage. Conformance with the zoning ordinance is required for subdivision approval. See Henriker Subdivision Regulations § 13 ("[t]he proposed subdivision shall conform to the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Henriker").

The board voted to deny the application on February 13, 1989, "on the grounds that the proposal does not conform with the lot size requirements of the zoning ordinance." The plaintiff filed a petition for certiorari with the superior court, arguing that the denial of his application violated RSA 356-B:5, which governs municipal regulation of condominium development, and was improper because the apartments enjoyed nonconforming use status. In denying the plaintiff's petition, the superior court ruled that the town had complied with RSA 356-B:5. It also found the plaintiff's nonconforming use argument to be without merit. "The nonconforming status goes to the use of the lot and buildings as apartment rentals. The nature of condominium ownership is simply a different use...." This appeal followed.

[1] Under the applicable standard of review, we will uphold the decision of the superior court unless that decision is not supported by the evidence or is legally erroneous. **Condos East Corp. v. Town of Conway, 132 N.H. 431, 435, 566 A.2d 1136, 1139 (1989). The plaintiff argues that the action of the board, and thus the order of the superior court, was contrary both to the protection historically granted to prior nonconforming uses and to RSA 356-B:5. Before addressing the specifics of the **1147 plaintiff's arguments, we must examine their legal foundations.

The doctrine of nonconforming uses has been summarized by one New Hampshire commentator as follows:

*427 "A use of land which, at the time a restriction on that use went into effect, was established (or 'vested'), and has not been discontinued or abandoned, can continue indefinitely, unless it includes activity which is

a nuisance or harmful to the public health and welfare; but the use cannot be changed or substantially expanded without being brought into compliance."

Waugh, "Grandfathered"—The Law of Nonconforming Uses and Vested Rights, 31 N.H.B.J. 17, 19 (1990); accord New London Land Use Assoc. v. New London Zoning Board, 130 N.H. 510, 515–17, 543 A.2d 1385, 1387–88 (1988). The right to continue a nonconforming use is recognized by the New Hampshire Constitution, N.H. Const. pt. I, arts 2 N.H. Const. pt. I, arts 2 & 1212, and by New Hampshire statute, RSA 674:19. New London Land Use Assoc., supra at 516, 543 A.2d at 1387.

The parties do not dispute that the plaintiff's property enjoys nonconforming use status. Thus, the plaintiff may continue to own the seven residential units and to rent them to tenants, notwithstanding the requirements of the **Herriker** Zoning Ordinance. This fact does not, however, directly answer the question raised by this appeal: whether the board had the authority to deny the plaintiff's subdivision approval to convert the rental units into condominiums.

The plaintiff was required to seek subdivision approval. Both State statute and local regulations define "subdivision" as including "the division ... of land ... for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of ... condominium conveyance." RSA 672:14; [Hennike] Subdivision Regulations art. 2, § 2.17. However, the board's discretion to deny subdivision approval for condominium projects is limited by RSA 356–B:5, which provides, in part:

"Municipal Ordinances, Noveming or other land use ordinance shall prohibit condominiums as such by reason of the form of ownership inherent therein. Neither shall any condominium be treated differently by any zoning or other land use ordinance which would pennit a physically identical project or development under a different form of ownership. No subdivision ordinance in any cary or town shall apply to any condominium or to any subdivision of any convertible land,

convertible space, or unit unless such ordinance is by its express terms made applicable thereto. Nevertheless, cities and towns may provide by ordinance that proposed conversion condominiums and the use thereof which do not conform to the zoning, land use and site plan regulations of *428 the respective city or town in which the property is located shall secure a special use permit, a special exception, or variance, as the case may be, prior to becoming a conversion condominium."

As a preliminary matter, we note that the legislature's references to "ordinances" in the above statute must be interpreted to include both the ordinances themselves and regulations promulgated pursuant to such ordinances, so as to be consistent with the statute's context. See State v. New Hampshire Gas & Electric Co., 86 N.H. 16, 21, 163 A. 724, 727 (1932) (words of statute are to be read in relation to their context); see also RSA 21:1 (disallowing construction of statute repugnant to its context).

According to RSA 356-B:5, no condominium may "be treated differently by any zoning or other land use ordinance which would permit a physically identical project or development under a different form of ownership." In the case at bar, the project "physically identical" to the proposed condominiums is the existing rental units prior to conversion. As stated above, the use of the units as rental properties is a protected nonconforming use. Thus, RSA 356-B:5 would indicate that condominium conversion would have to be allowed to avoid disparate treatment.

[2] RSA 356-B:5 also states that "cities and towns may provide ... that proposed conversion condominiums and the use **1148 thereof which do not conform to ... [local] regulations ... shall secure a special use permit, special exception or variance." Thus, a municipality may require such a permit, exception, or variance prior to conversion even where there exists a protected nonconforming use. However, to be consistent with the rest of the statute, such a requirement may only be denied if the conversion would have an actual effect on the use of the land. See Natrella v. Arlington Cty. Bd. of Zoning App., 231 Va. 451, 462, 345 S.E.2d 295, 302 (1986). In Natrella, the Supreme Court of Virginia was

presented with a factual situation similar to that now before us, and a statute, Va.Code Ann. § 55–79.43, then essentially identical to RSA 356–B:5. The Natrella court reasoned that the denial of a variance, where there was no impact on land use, was incompatible with the special protection afforded condominiums in the statute. Id. at 461–62, 345 S.E.2d at 301–02. We may no more ignore a portion of RSA 356–B:5 than the Natrella court could ignore a portion of the Virginia statute. See Merrill v. Great Bay Disposal Serv., 125 N.H. 540, 543, 484 A.2d 1101, 1103 (1984) (all of the words of a statute must be given effect); Peck v. Jenness, 48 U.S. 612, 623, 12 L.Ed. 841 (1849) ("[o]ne portion of a statute *429 should not be construed to annul or destroy what has been clearly granted by another"). Therefore, we concur with the analysis of the Natrella court.

Interpreting RSA 356-B:5 to preclude denial of a special use permit, special exception, or variance where there is no change in land use is supported by our cases on nonconforming uses. Justice Grimes, in his dissent in Isabelle v. Newbury, 114 N.H. 399, 403, 321 A.2d 570, 573 (1974), stated that "[a]uthority is overwhelming that a mere change from tenant occupancy to owner occupancy is not an extension of a non-conforming use." This statement was adopted by the majority of the court in New London Land Use Assoc., 130 N.H. at 516, 543 A.2d at 1388. See also Town of Seabrook v. Tra-Sea Corp., 119 N.H. 937, 942, 410 A.2d 240, 243 (1979) (mere change in ownership would not significantly increase municipal burdens). The conversion of apartment units into condominium units is not necessarily a change in use. If the conversion would in fact have an effect on land use, this may constitute a change in or expansion of use, in such a case, preventing conversion would not conflict with the dectrine of noncombonning uses, and would not violate RSA 356-B-5. On the other hand, it, for example, a planning board may deny a variance to relandowners celting to convert apartments to constantinuous, where the conversion wantallyavenorefree on landuse, that landowner is prevented from taking full advantage withis or her nonconforming use.

[3] In the case at hand, section 2 of the Econiker Subdivision Regulations expressly makes those regulations applicable to condominiums, thereby complying with the third sentence of RSA 356-B:5 ("[n]o subdivision ordinance ... shall apply to any condominium ... unless such ordinance is by its express terms made applicable thereto"). Section 13 of the Econiker Subdivision Regulations makes conformance with the Econiker Zoning Ordinance a requirement for subdivision approval, including

condominium conversion; it also allows subdivision approval "[w]here strict conformity to these subdivision regulations would cause undue hardship or injustice to the owner of the land." These provisions comport with the fourth sentence of RSA 356–B:5, discussed above. Thus, the board was authorized to deny the plaintiff subdivision approval only if the condominium conversion would affect land use. Because neither the board nor the superior court made a finding that conversion of the plaintiff's property into condominiums would affect land use, we reverse the decision of the superior court and remand this case to the board.

Reversed and remanded.

All concurred.

All Citations

134 N.H. 425, 593 A.2d 1145

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155 N.H. 622 Supreme Court of New Hampshire.

ROWN OF RAIL BOARD OF SELECIMEN

TOWN OF RYE ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

No. 2006-598.

Argued: April 3, 2007.

Opinion Issued: June 26, 2007.

Rehearing Denied Aug. 20, 2007.

Synopsis

Background: Landowner appealed zoning board of adjustment (ZBA) decision to dismiss application for special exception to convert tourist cabins to condominiums. The Superior Court, Rockingham, reversed and remanded. On remand, the ZBA granted special exception. Town selectmen appealed. The Superior Court, Morrill, J., upheld the decision. Selectmen appealed.

Holdings: The Supreme Court, Galway, J., held that:

[1] ordinances that prohibited conversion of tourist cabins to condominiums conflicted with and was preempted by Condominium Act, and

[2] evidence supported trial court's decision to affirm ZBA's determination that conversion would not affect use of the land.

Affirmed.

Duggan, J., concurred specially and filed opinion.

Procedural Posture(s): On Appeal.

West Headnotes (12)

[1] Appeal and Error State preemption of local law An issue of state preemption is essentially one of statutory interpretation, and the Supreme Court reviews the trial court's statutory interpretation de novo.

[2] Statutes • Judicial construction; role, authority, and duty of courts

Statutes • Language and intent, will, purpose, or policy

The Supreme Court is the final arbiter of the legislature's intent as expressed in the words of the statute considered as a whole.

[3] Statutes Plain Language; Plain, Ordinary, or Common Meaning

> Courts first examine the language of the statute and, where possible, ascribe the plain and ordinary meanings to the words used.

[4] Statutes • Purpose and intent; unambiguously expressed intent

Statutes Absent terms; silence; omissions When a statute's language is plain and unambiguous, courts need not look beyond it for further indication of legislative intent, and they refuse to consider what the legislature might have said or add language that the legislature did not see fit to incorporate in the statute.

1 Cases that cite this headnote

[5] Towns Legislative control of acts, rights, and liabilities

Towns cannot regulate a field that has been preempted by the state.

2 Cases that cite this headnote

[6] Municipal Corporations Concurrent and Conflicting Exercise of Power by State and Municipality

> State law expressly preempts local law when there is an actual conflict between state and local regulation.

a change in use. If the conversion would in fact have an effect on the land use, this may constitute a change or expansion of use; in such a case, preventing conversion would not *630 conflict with the doctrine of nonconforming uses, and would not violate RSA 356-B:5.

Id. at 429, 593 A.2d 1145.

The analysis set forth in Cohen controls in this case. Here, the cottage-style buildings owned by 228 Maple

are legal nonconforming uses. As the majority points out, they do not meet the definition of "dwelling unit," and most of the cottages do not meet the minimum square footage requirement specified in section 503.3 of the Town's Ordinance. However, the ZBA determined, and the superior court agreed, that the proposed condominium conversion would not result in a change in the use of the property. Consequently, it was proper for the ZBA to grant 228 Maple's application for a special exception. I would therefore affirm the superior court's order upholding the ZBA's decision.

All Citations

155 N.H. 622, 930 A.2d 382

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432 A.2d 15

KeyCite Yellow Flag - Negative Treatment

Declined to Extend by Everett Ashton, Inc. v. City of Concord, N.H.,

April 29, 2016

KeyCite Overruling Risk - Negative Treatment
Overruling Risk Lingle v. Chevron U.S.A. Inc., U.S., May 23, 2005

121 N.H. 590 Supreme Court of New Hampshire.

John P. BURKOWS et al.

CITY OF INEENE.

No. 80-419.

June 26, 1981.

Synopsis

Landowners brought action to review city's denial of subdivision approval and later amended petition to include claim that city's amendment to zoning ordinance which included part of plaintiffs' land in conservation zone was inverse condemnation entitling them to damages. The Superior Court, Cheshire County, DiClerico, J., dismissed claim regarding denial of subdivision approval, but ruled that inclusion of land in conservation zone constituted an inverse condemnation and ordered damages, and city appealed. The Supreme Court, Grimes, C. J., held that: (1) landowners were entitled to amend petition to raise constitutional issue of inverse condemnation, and (2) city's amendment of zoning ordinance constituted inverse condemnation entitling landowners to damages.

Appeal dismissed; remanded.

Procedural Posture(s): On Appeal.

West Headnotes (7)

Injunction Amended and supplemental pleadings

Trial court did not abuse discretion in allowing landowners to amend petition for equitable relief in trial court to include constitutional claim that city's amendment of zoning ordinance which included part of landowner's land in conservation zone was inverse condemnation where, although

it was a new and different issue from landowners' initial claim that planning board improperly denied its application for subdivision approval, it was one which landowners could raise at any time before applicable statute of limitations had run and defendant was given ample time to prepare to meet the issue.

9 Cases that cite this headnote

[2] Constitutional Law & Right to Property

"Property," in the constitutional sense, is not the physical thing but is rather group of rights which the owner of the thing has with respect to it, and term refers to person's right to possess, use, enjoy and dispose of a thing and is not limited to the thing itself.

7 Cases that cite this headnote

[3] Eminent Domain & What Constitutes a Taking; Police and Other Powers Distinguished The principle of just compensation when private property is taken under police power of the government applies if the abridgement of the rights to property is accomplished by a governmental regulation restricting the exercise of these rights. Const. Pt. 1, Art. 12Const. Pt. 1, Art. 12; U.S.C.A.Const. Amends. 5, 14.

5 Cases that cite this headnote

[4] Eminent Domain - Zoning and Permits

Reasonable regulations that prevent an owner from using his land in such a way that it causes injury to others or deprives them of the reasonable use of their land may not require compensation, nor do reasonable zoning regulations which restrict economic uses of property to different zones and which do not substantially destroy the value of an individual piece of property effect a taking requiring compensation. Const. Pt. 1, Art. 12Const. Pt. 1, Art. 12; U.S.C.A.Const. Amends. 5, 14.

24 Cases that cite this headnote

Burrows v. City of Keene, 1	121 N	I.H. 5	590 (1981
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432 A.2d 15

All concurred.

All Citations

121 N.H. 590, 432 A.2d 15

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TAX WORKSHEET - SANDY POINT

Current Assessment - \$2,628,000

Alton Tax Rate - \$11.30

Ad Valorem Taxes = \$29,696.40

POTENTIAL TAX REVENUE IF BILL PASSED

Purchase Price - \$12,500,000.00

Converted Value Potential after Capital Improvements - \$30,000,000.00

Revised Ad Valorem Taxes at \$11.30/Thousand = \$339,000.00

INCREASED ANNUAL TAX REVENUE - \$368,696.40

The analysis does not include additional revenue for car registrations, boat fees and the economic impact resulting from employment, capital purchases such as boats and furniture and the patronage of area restaurants and businesses.

0 MOUNT MAJOR HIGHWAY

Location

190 MOUNT MAJOR HIGHWAY

36/37/// Mblu

Acct#

0003480

Owner

SANDY POINT BEACH RESORT

INC

Assessment

\$2,628,000

PID 3184

Building Count 40

Current Value

Assessment			
Valuation Year	Improvements	Land	Total
2017	\$988,300	\$1,639,700	\$2,628,000

Owner of Record

wner

SANDY POINT BEACH RESORT INC

Sale Price

\$0 1

1N

်၁-Owner Address

Certificate

190 MOUNT MAJOR HIGHWAY ALTON BAY, NH 03810

Book & Page 906/0376

Sale Date

06/27/1985

Instrument

Ownership History

Ownership History					
Owner	Sale Price	Certificate	Book & Page	Instrument	Sale Date
SANDY POINT BEACH RESORT INC	\$0	1	906/0376	1N	06/27/1985
SANDY POINT BEACH RESORT INC	\$0		870/0755	1N	05/18/1984
SANDY POINT BEACH RESORT INC	\$0		794/0591	1N	09/19/1980

Building Information

Building 1: Section 1

Year Built:

1948

Living Area:

4,269 \$516,428

Replacement Cost: **Building Percent Good:**

14

Replacement Cost

Less Depreciation:

\$72,300

Building Attributes

Building Layout



Building Sub-Areas (sq ft) <u>Legenc</u>			Legend
Code	Description	Gross Area	Living Area



The State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

January 21, 2022

The Honorable James Gray Chairman, Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee State House, Room 100 Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 244, AN ACT relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on SB 244. This bill makes allowances for certain non-conforming structures by amending RSA 674:72 with regard to accessory dwelling units (ADU) and makes changes to the definition of subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, VIII. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) supports the portion of the bill regarding ADUs with a suggested amendment discussed below. NHDES has concerns about the portion of the bill relative to changes to the definition of subdivision.

The bill proposes to amend the language in RSA 674:72 regarding ADUs. NHDES supports this proposed change provided that the requirements in RSA 674:72, V, regarding water supply and sewage disposal, continue to apply to the ADU conversion. In addition to the proposed amendment, NHDES suggests modifying the language of RSA 674:73, Detached Accessory Dwelling Units, to read:

"A municipality is not required to but may permit detached accessory dwelling units. Detached accessory dwelling units shall comply with the requirements of, and any municipal ordinances or regulations adopted pursuant to, RSA 674:72, IV through IX and the primary building setback established in RSA 483-B:9, II, (b) when located within protected shorelands. If a municipality allows detached accessory dwelling units, it may require an increased lot size."

This change would be beneficial to both homeowners and municipalities by calling attention to existing legal requirements earlier in the planning stages of projects. This will prevent the loss of time and avoid costs by ensuring that owners are informed and investing in design proposals that are not prohibited by overlapping, existing law.

The bill also proposed to amend RSA 485-A:2, XIII regarding the definition of subdivision. NHDES has concerns about this portion of the bill. Currently, the definition of Subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, XIII requires subdivision approvaling the definition of Subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, XIII requires subdivision approvaling the definition of Subdivision in RSA 485-A:2, XIII requires subdivision approvaling to the converting on existing single towner property to accord ominisms. The purpose of the subdivision approval processis, impart, to determine if the local manage and treat all the wastewater generated. It is important to maintain this requirement for NHDES

The Honorable James Gray Chairman, Election Law and Municipal Affairs Committee January 21, 2022 Page 2

subdivision approval of condominium conversions in order to protect the interests of the buyer, public health and water quality.

A prime example of why NHDES subdivision approval of condominium conversions is important is with existing, grandfathered (existing prior to applicable regulations) cabin resorts that are owned by one individual or company. Typically, these cabin resorts were built on substandard lots where the wastewater loadigenerated by the cabins exceeds the lot's capacity to adequately manage and treat the wastewater. In addition, many of the sewage or waste disposal systems (septic systems) supporting the cabins also pre-date current regulations and laws promulgated in 1967. A septic system that pre-dates those laws would now be at least 55 years old with the possibility that the system reclonger meets current standards and/or adequately treats wastewater.

Septic systems have a finite lifespan and, when these grandfathered systems fail, they often must be replaced with much larger systems to meet current standards. RSA 485-A:33, IV only allows for the replacement of a septic system, "in-kind" if the system being replaced was previously state approved. If a septic system(s) needs to be replaced and/or relocated to meet current standards, and the property is owned by one individual or company, that individual or company can manage the property to take whatever steps are needed to accommodate the new, larger system. This may include the nemoval of a structure to reduce the wastewater load or to properly locate the system on the lot to meet current standards. Conversely, if the cabins are converted to condominiums and each cabin is owned individually, the individual property rights may make it impossible to find a place to construct a replacement system that accommodates all properties on site. In such a case, it is likely that one or more of the individual properties would not be able to site a septic system to meet their needs. Therefore, requiring subdivision approval for a condominium conversion ensures the purchaser is buying a property that can meet all applicable laws and rules relative to wastewater management.

Having compliant, functioning septic systems is crucial to protecting the groundwater and water quality in lakes, ponds, and streams. Considering the large percentage of private drinking water wells in the State of New Hampshire, protecting the groundwater is critical to the protection of human health. Further, many cabin resorts referenced above are located on lakes, ponds, and rivers throughout the State of New Hampshire. Compliant, functioning septic systems play a significant role in protecting these very important resources.

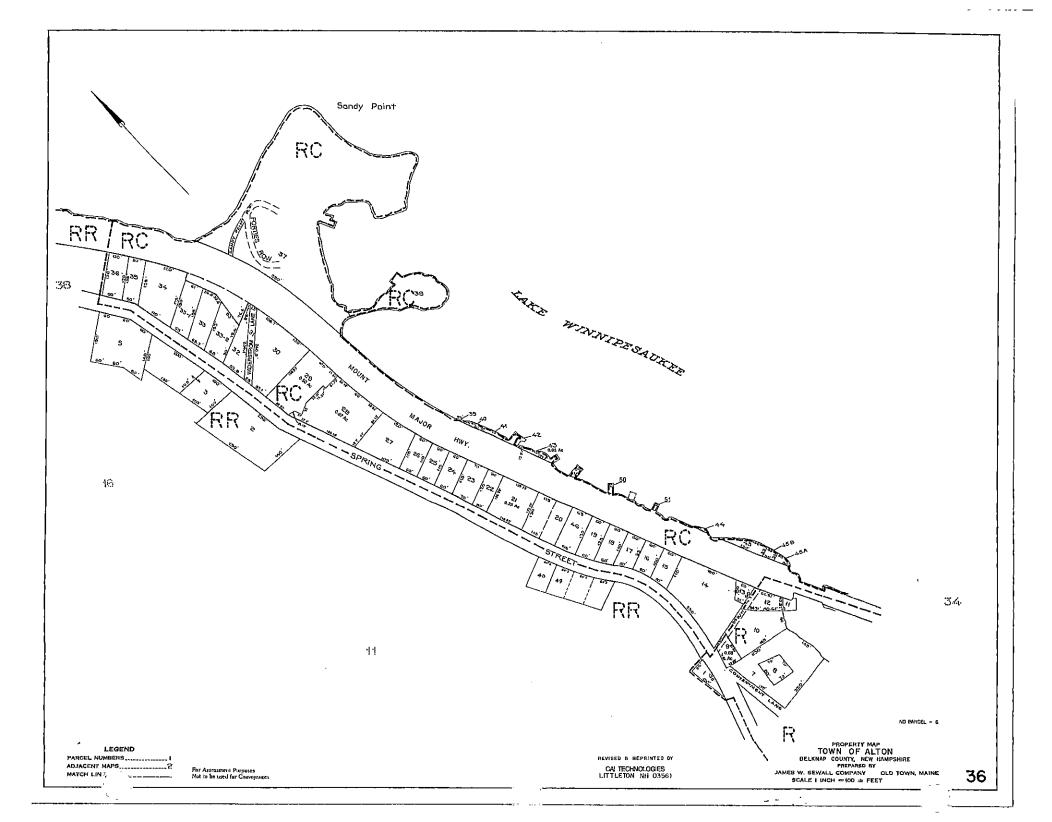
Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on this legislation. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Robert Tardif, Subsurface Systems Bureau Administrator at 603-271-2904 or robert.a.tardif@des.nh.gov or Darlene Forst, Wetlands Bureau Administrator at 603-271-4054 or darlene.c.forst@des.nh.gov.

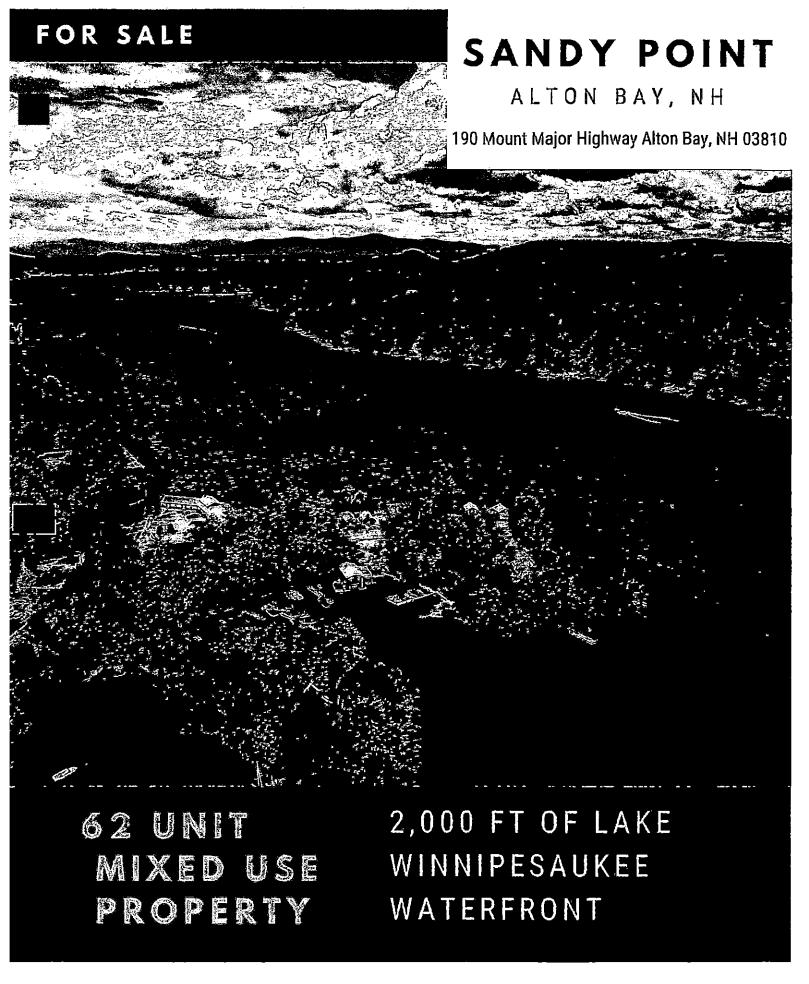
Sincerely,

Robert R. Scott Commissioner

Mota Sile

ec: Sponsor of SB 244: Senator Cavanaugh





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RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL ZONING PROVIDES

EXTENSIVE POTENTIAL

PROPERTY MAP



- 1 Scenic Motel 12 motel rooms, 1 apartment
- 6 Waterfront Cottages 2 bed 1 bath
- 2 Hillside Motel 4 1 bed/1bath apts, sundeck
- 7 Single Family Home with garage and private dock
- 3 3.2 bedroom apartments, 1 workshop
- 8 Boat House, boat launch and lift and 40+ dock slips
- 4 Beachfront Cottages 1+ bed 1 bath
- 9 Cove Cottages Ranging from studios to 3 bed 2 bath
- 5 Beach Motel 2 bedroom Unit, 4 1 bed units
- 10 4,000 Sq Ft Resturant 150+ seating capacity

JOHN G. CRONIN 722 CHESTNUT STREET MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03104

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, SCHOOL OF LAW

Concord, New Hampshire Juris Doctorate Degree, May 1989

ANNA MARIA COLLEGE, Paxton, Massachusetts Master of Science, Business Administration, December 1985

MERRIMACK COLLEGE, North Andover, Massachusetts Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, May 1982

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY, Chicago, Illinois Certificate, Mediation Studies, January, 2017

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CRONIN, BISSON & ZALINSKY, P.C. (formerly Wenger & Cronin, P.C. (1991 - 2004) and Cronin & Bisson, P.C. (2004 - 2012)), Manchester, New Hampshire Attorney, Officer, Director, Shareholder (September 1991 - Present)

General law practice providing representation in civil litigation, the acquisition, development, and management of commercial real estate, tax abatement services, real estate law, insurance law, community association law, and bankruptcy.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Franklin Pierce College, Adjunct Faculty (1986 - 1989) Southern New Hampshire University (1995) Various Lectures of New Hampshire Continuing Legal Education Courses

CURRENT BOARD SERVICE

Chairman, Catholic Medical Center Chairman, Manchester Police Commission President, Pine Tree Place Condominium Association Trustee, Sakowich Foundation

ORGANIZATIONS

Member of New Hampshire, Manchester, Massachusetts Bar Associations and New Hampshire Associations for Justice.

Member of the University of New Hampshire School of Law Advisory Board

Member of the Board of Directors and Chairman, Catholic Medical Center

Chairman of Compliance Committee, Catholic Medical Center

Member of Governance Committee, Catholic Medical Center

Member of Executive Compensation Committee, Catholic Medical Center

Member of the Board of Directors, Camp Allen

Past Attorney Member, New Hampshire Real Estate Commission

Past member of the Board of Commercial Investment Board of Realtors (CIBOR)
Member and President of Pine Tree Place Condominium Association
Member of the Apartment Association of New Hampshire (former President)
Member of the National Automotive Dealers Association of New Hampshire
Formerly licensed as Public Insurance Adjuster in New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

PRIOR EXPERT TESTIMONY

John Cronin has been retained as an expert to testify in legal cases involving real estate, condominium and fire insurance matters.

PUBLICATIONS

Seat Belt Defense, NH Trial Bar News 1987

Articles Publis	shed in Cronin & Bisson, P.C. Newsletters			
July 2002	Read Your Fire and Property Insurance Policy Carefully			
July 2001	Know the Requirements for Mechanic's Lien			
October 2002	Take a Hike! Real Estate Due Diligence			
April 2003	Commercial Broker Liens			
April 2003	Pending Legislation: Workforce Housing			
April 2003	Get the Lead Out!			
July 2003	Mind Your E's and Q's - EQ Ratios Plummet			
	Oh Well! Water, Water "NOWHERE"			
January 2005	What Time Is It - In the Eyes of Your Insurance Company			
April 2007	Is There a Hole in Your Umbrella?			
April 2007	What Time is It? Time to Start Active and Substantial Development			
April 2007	The Trading Game - "In Lieu" Wetlands Mitigation			

Voting Sheets

Senate Election Law & Municipal Affairs Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD 2022 Session

.1 ~1 ~			Bill S	244
, ,	<u>, 3</u> '	•		
Executive Session date:	2/14/6	<u>6</u>		
Motion of:	TS		Vote	. 4-1
Committee Member Sen. Gray, Chair Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair Sen. Ward Sen. Soucy Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	X			Yes No
Motion of:			Vote	:
Committee Member Sen. Gray, Chair Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair Sen. Ward Sen. Soucy Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	Present X X X X X X	Made by	Second	Yes No
Motion of:			Vote	i <u>.</u>
Committee Member Sen. Gray, Chair Sen. Birdsell, Vice Chair Sen. Ward Sen. Soucy Sen. Perkins-Kwoka	\mathbf{X}	Made by	Second	Yes No
Reported out by: Som.	Gna	4		
Notes:	<u> </u>	<u>J</u>		

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Monday, February 14, 2022

THE COMMITTEE ON Election Law and Municipal Affairs to which was referred SB 244

AN ACT

relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

BE REFERRED TO INTERIM STUDY

BY A VOTE OF: 4-1

Senator James Gray For the Committee

Tricia Melillo 271-3077

6/14/22, 2:59 PM Bill_Status

General Court of New Hampshire - Bill Status System

Docket of SB244

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to non-conforming structures and variances.

Official Docket of SB244.:

Date	Body	Description
12/14/2021	S	To Be Introduced 01/05/2022 and Referred to Election Law and Municipal Affairs; SJ 1
1/18/2022	S	Hearing: 01/24/2022, Room 100, SH, 01:15 pm; SC 4
2/15/2022	S	Committee Report: Referred to Interim Study, 02/24/2022; SC 8
2/24/2022	S	Refer to Interim Study, MA, VV; 02/24/2022; SJ 4

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NH House	NU Compto
NO DOUSE	NH Senate
1111 110450	TVT CCTACC

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: <u>SB</u> 8	<u> </u>	Senate Committee:	ELMH
D			al de la companya de
included with an "X" beside		er listed below and indicat	e the documents which have been
X Final docket found	on Bill Stat	us	
Bill Hearing Documents	: (Legislati	ive Aides)	
X Bill version as it o	ame to the c	ommittee	
🗶 All Calendar Notic	es		
🗶 Hearing Sign-up s	neet(s)		
× Prepared testimon	y, presentati	ions, & other submission	s handed in at the public hearing
Hearing Report			
Revised/Amended	Fiscal Notes	provided by the Senate (Clerk's Office
Committee Action Doc	uments: (I	egislative Aides)	
All amendments considered	d in commit	tee (including those not a	idopted):
- amendment	<u>୍ ୦aa(</u>	amendment #	
- amendment	4	- amendment #_	
🗶 Executive Session	Sheet		
X Committee Report	•		
Floor Action Documents	s: (Clerk's	Office)	
All floor amendments cor	isidered by tl	he body during session (o	nly if they are offered to the senate):
- amendment	¥	amendment #	
		amendment #	
Post Floor Action: (if ag	oplicable) (Clerk's Office)	
Committee of Conby the committee of			mbers. Include any new language proposed
Enrolled Bill Amer	ndment(s)		
Governor's Veto M	lessage		
All available versions of	the bill; (C	Clerk's Office)	
as amende	d by the sena	ite	as amended by the house
final version	on '		
Completed Committee	Report File	Delivered to the Sena	te Clerk's Office By:
Committee Aide			Date
Commutee Alue			Date
Senate Clerk's Office	\mathbb{W}		