



**New Hampshire
House of Representatives and State Senate**

Joint News Release

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**Senate & House applaud \$100K cost-savings in state gov't
*State employee checks go online; House to save on mailing***

(Concord) In a legislative year defined by budget cuts, House and Senate leadership today applauded the state for finding additional cost-savings by going on-line with employee checks. The House has also moved to save on mailing expenses related to the weekly calendar it sends to its 400 members. Together, these savings will total over \$100,000 annually.

The Department of Administrative Services announced that beginning July 1st, the state will introduce new online payment statements. This means going forward, thousands of state employees who use direct deposit will no longer receive confirmation on paper every two weeks that their check is in the bank. Instead they will have 24/7 online access to information regarding their pay, leave and sick day information. The new system will eliminate printing and handling of check statements saving personnel costs and state expenditures up to \$34,000.

Commenting on the new on-line strategy for checks, Senate President Peter Bragdon, R-Milford, said, "This is exactly the kind of cost-cutting and reforming the way state government does business that we've been talking about since our legislative session began back in January. I'm pleased we're seeing real results. This will continue to be our goal."

Speaker of the House William O'Brien, R-Mount Vernon, echoed Bragdon's cost-saving sentiments: "In addition to the online pay statement initiative, the House has decided to halt printing and sending out calendars and journals to our 400 members. Both are available for them to view online and hard copies are available in the Clerk's Office. We have estimated the cost savings of not sending out hard copies of the calendar every week would be around \$70 thousand annually. That includes printing costs, paper, envelopes, postage and man hours. These measures are part of the ongoing effort to reduce our costs and maintain a responsible budget. Whatever we can do to keep more of Granite Staters' hard earned money in their pockets we will do. We need to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money and avoid frivolous spending," he said.

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