



New Hampshire State Senate ***NEWS RELEASE***

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Senate finishes work on its bills for first half of session

(Concord) The state Senate wrapped up work on all of its bills, as well as a constitutional amendment, on Wednesday, one day before the Cross-Over deadline. Highlights of the session include passage of the following legislation:

- SB 2** – Clarifies the ability of cities and towns to adopt spending caps. (Roll call 19-5)
- SB 3** – Creates comprehensive reform to the state's retirement system. (Roll call 19-5)
- SB 52** – Fixes flaws in SB500 by excluding those individuals convicted of violent crimes and sexually violent persons from mandatory early release on probation or parole. (Roll call 24-0)
- SB 92** – Establishes a new economic strategic commission for the advancement of business in NH.
- SB 120** – Provides greater flexibility for restaurants and bars to advertise.
- SB 129** – Requires valid photo identification to vote. (Roll call 18-6)
- SB 166** – Mandates that the medical benefits for the beneficiaries of a police or firefighter killed in the line of duty will not be reduced.
- SB 170** – States that funds in the Joint Underwriting Assoc. belong to policy holders. (Roll call 23-1)
- CACR 14** – a constitutional amendment regarding education funding that recognizes the state's responsibility to educate children while at the same time eliminates donor towns and targets aid to communities. (Roll call 16-8)

Commenting on the accomplishments of the first half of the legislative year, Senate President Peter Bragdon (R-Milford) said, "We began back in January knowing we had monumental issues ahead of us concerning the budget, education funding and retirement reform. Now that we've reached the half-way point, I believe the Senate has kept its promise to hold the line on spending, passed a constitutional amendment that voters will accept and proposed the best solution to shoring up our retirement system and reducing its current \$4.7 billion unfunded liability. Now, we'll turn our attention to the bills sent to us by the House and put the senate's stamp on the budget."

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