

Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

Deb Chroniak 271-1403

SB 142, relative to honoring E. Maude Ferguson, the first woman elected to the New Hampshire senate.

Hearing Date: February 15, 2017

Time Opened: 9:40 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:46 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Carson, Reagan, Gannon, Soucy and Woodburn

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis: This bill directs the joint legislative historical committee to give priority to hanging a portrait in the state house of E. Maude Ferguson, the first woman elected to the New Hampshire state senate.

Sponsors:

Sen. Fuller Clark	Sen. Carson	Sen. Feltes
Sen. Gray	Sen. Hennessey	Sen. Kahn
Sen. Lasky	Sen. McGilvray	Sen. Reagan
Sen. Soucy	Sen. Watters	Sen. Woodburn
Rep. Cushing	Rep. Wall	Rep. Ward

Who supports the bill: Senator Fuller Clark, District 21; Senator Sharon Carson, District 14; Senator David Watters, District 4; Senator Jay Kahn, District 10; Senator Donna Soucy, District 18; Senator Bette Lasky, District 13; Senator Jeff Woodburn, District 1

Who opposes the bill: No one

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Fuller Clark (testimony provided, along with a handout) (in support):

- Stated this bill honors E. Maude Ferguson by authorizing the Joint Legislative Historical Committee to seek acquisition of a portrait of E. Maude Ferguson, who in 1931 was the first woman elected to the New Hampshire State Senate.
- A companion bill is in the House to honor the first women elected to the House of Representatives.

- This legislation is an attempt to make sure we are adequately recognizing the role of women in New Hampshire government.
- A biography was handed out to committee members.
- Working hard to bring portraits of these important women to the State House to provide balance of what we currently see of portraits here in Concord.

Senator Soucy asked if Senator Fuller Clark was aware of any portraits that presently exist of Maude or would one be commissioned. Senator Fuller Clark was not sure, but believes it would be the job of the Historical Committee to look into that. There are photos, but not sure if there is an existing portrait.

- A portrait could be commissioned because there are photos available.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: No one

Future Action: Ought to Pass

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Date Hearing Report completed: February 17, 2017

[SB0142-F]