

**CHAPTER 197**  
**HB 484 - FINAL VERSION**

8Mar2017... 0651h  
04/27/2017 1453s  
04/27/2017 1548s  
8Jun2017... 2209-EBA

2017 SESSION

17-0284  
01/05

HOUSE BILL                    ***484***

AN ACT                    establishing a commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Messmer, Rock. 24; Rep. Cushing, Rock. 21; Rep. Malloy, Rock. 23; Rep. Berrien, Rock. 18; Rep. Bean, Rock. 21; Rep. P. Gordon, Rock. 29; Rep. H. Marsh, Rock. 22; Sen. Innis, Dist 24; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Feltes, Dist 15; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3

COMMITTEE:        Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation.

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Explanation:        Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
                         Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~  
                         Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Seventeen*

AN ACT                    establishing a commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation.

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

1            197:1 Statement of Intent.

2            I. The general court recognizes that the department of health and human services found on  
3 February 2, 2016 the existence of the first cancer cluster ever identified in the state of  
4 New Hampshire. Specifically, the department found higher than expected incidences of 2 forms of  
5 pediatric cancer, rhabdomyosarcoma and pleuropulmonary blastoma, in a 5-town area of the  
6 seacoast.

7            II. Therefore, the general court hereby establishes a commission to investigate and analyze  
8 the findings and related materials, develop prioritized governmental and community actions, and  
9 report recommendations for proposed legislation.

10          197:2 New Subdivision; Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation. Amend  
11 RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

12                                    Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation

13          126-A:73 Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation Established; Membership;  
14 Duties.

15            I. There is established the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation.

16            II.(a) The members of the commission shall be as follows:

17                                    (1) Five members of the house of representatives, 3 appointed by the speaker of the  
18 house of representatives and 2 appointed by the minority leader.

19                                    (2) Two members of the senate, one of whom shall be a member of the minority  
20 party, appointed by the president of the senate.

21                                    (3) The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.

22                                    (4) The commissioner of the department of environmental services, or designee.

23                                    (5) A representative from each of the towns and cities of Portsmouth, Greenland,  
24 New Castle, Hampton, North Hampton, and Rye appointed by the governing body of such town or  
25 city.

26                                    (6) Three residents of the seacoast, appointed by the governor.

27                                    (7) The New Hampshire remedial project manager, United States Environmental

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1 Protection Agency, or designee.

2 (8) A hydrogeologist, appointed by the New Hampshire chapter of the United States  
3 Geological Survey.

4 (9) A toxicologist or environmental health professor from Boston University or the  
5 university of New Hampshire, appointed by the governor.

6 (b) Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate  
7 when attending to the duties of the commission.

8 III.(a) In response to the department of health and human services' findings on February 2,  
9 2016, the commission shall:

10 (1) Develop a common understanding of the key definitions and concepts of cancer  
11 clusters and environmental investigation.

12 (2) Review the progress made by state and federal agencies and their partners.

13 (3) Delineate the potential roles and responsibilities for municipalities, state  
14 agencies, and their partners.

15 (4) Provide informed communication about the cancer cluster investigation to their  
16 constituencies.

17 (5) Calibrate and utilize the Seacoast New Hampshire Groundwater Availability  
18 Study developed by the United States Geological Survey in 2003 to assess localized groundwater  
19 flow and contaminant migration from sites selected by the commission.

20 (b) The commission shall solicit information from any person or entity the commission  
21 deems relevant to its study.

22 IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members.  
23 The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member. The first  
24 meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Eleven  
25 members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

26 V. The commission shall make 2 interim reports, one on or before November 1, 2017, and  
27 one on or before November 1, 2018, and issue a final report on its findings and any  
28 recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the  
29 president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the oversight committee on  
30 health and human services, and the state library on or before June 30, 2020.

31 197:3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster  
32 investigation, is repealed.

33 197:4 Contingent Renumbering. If HB 511 of the 2017 legislative session becomes law, then  
34 RSA 126-A:73 as inserted by section 2 and repealed by 3 of this act shall be renumbered as RSA  
35 126-A:74.

36 197:5 Effective Date.

37 I. Section 3 of this act shall take effect June 30, 2020.

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II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: July 05, 2017

Effective Date:

I. Section 3 effective June 30, 2020

II. Remainder effective July 5, 2017