

Amendment to HB 484

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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3 1 Statement of Intent.

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

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

12 2 New Subdivision; Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation. Amend
13 RSA 126-A by inserting after section 72 the following new subdivision:

14 Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation

15 126-A:73 Commission on the Seacoast Cancer Cluster Investigation Established; Membership;
16 Duties.

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

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

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

21 (2) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

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

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

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

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

27 (7) The New Hampshire remedial project manager, United States Environmental
28 Protection Agency, or designee.

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

31 (9) A toxicologist or environmental health professor from Boston University or the
32 university of New Hampshire, appointed by the dean of the selected entity with jurisdiction over

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1 public health.

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

4 III.(a) In response to the department of health and human services' findings on February 2,
5 2016, the commission shall:

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

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

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

11 (4) Provide informed communication about the cancer cluster investigation to their
12 constituencies.

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

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

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

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

27 3 Repeal. RSA 126-A:73, relative to the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster
28 investigation, is repealed.

29 4 Effective Date.

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

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