

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Kirsten Koch 271-3266

HB 75, renaming and adjusting the membership of the New Hampshire commission on deafness and hearing loss.

Hearing Date: March 24, 2021

Time Opened: 9:36 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:42 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Bradley, Gray, Avard, Sherman and Whitley

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill changes the name of the New Hampshire commission on deafness and hearing loss to the New Hampshire commission for the deaf and hard of hearing and adds members to the commission.

Sponsors:

Rep. M. Pearson

Rep. Porter

Rep. Woods

Rep. Read

Rep. Gagne

Rep. Major

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Merchant

Sen. Birdsell

Sen. Bradley

Sen. D'Allesandro

Who supports the bill: Senator Birdsell, District 19; Ruth Larson; Nicole Fordey; Richard DeMark; Lucinda Hope.

Who opposes the bill: None.

Who is neutral on the bill: None.

Summary of Testimony Presented:

Representative M. Pearson, Rockingham 34

- Rep. Pearson said he is the Chairman of the commission on deafness and hearing loss.
- Rep. Pearson said, this was a bipartisan bill that passed last year and then was held up by COVID-19.
- Rep. Pearson said, this bill does two things:
 - (1) Renames the commission. The commission members want to reflect people, not conditions. This bill brings the title into conformity with the names of similar commissions in other states.
 - (2) Adds members that oversee care. Including extended care facility association members to work with the commission will allow outside groups to come onto this commission to assist.

- Senator Sherman said, speaking to the topic of membership, the fourth major association in the state, Leading Age, is a CCRC. I am wondering if you would be open to a friendly appointment from LeadingAge.
 - Rep. Pearson said, I am open to this. I apologize that this was not included. This amendment would enrich us and the work we do.

KNK

Date Hearing Report completed: March 24, 2021