MINUTES LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 6, 2017 MEETING

{Approved: May 30, 2017}

The Legislative Ethics Committee (RSA 14-B:2) met on Monday, February 6, 2017, at 1:00 P.M. in Room 104 of the Legislative Office Building.

The following members were present: the Honorable Donna Sytek, Chairman, Senator Sharon M. Carson, Vice Chairman, Senator Martha Fuller Clark, Representative Janet G. Wall, Representative David A. Welch, Attorney David H. Bradley, and the Honorable David W. Hess. Also present: Richard M. Lambert, Executive Administrator, and Attorney Richard J. Lehmann, Senate Legal Counsel.

The Committee's meeting consisted of the following items:

ITEM#1

Consideration of the draft *Minutes* from the Committee's meeting held on January 26, 2017.

Following review, Senator Fuller Clark moved to approve the *Minutes* following correction of a typographical error. Senator Carson seconded the motion and the Committee voted 6 to 0, with 1 abstention, to approve the *Minutes*, as corrected.

ITEM #2

Discussion of matters relating to "personal interest" and "verbal disclosure."

The Committee continued its discussion from the January 26, 2017 meeting relating to questions and concerns raised by many legislators about the new provisions of the Ethics Guidelines relating to personal interest and verbal disclosure. At the January 26 meeting, the Committee considered suggestions for a possible amendment to the Ethics Guidelines and discussed a draft of a new general disclosure form that would allow legislators to list public and private organizations in which they or a family member may have a personal interest. Considerable consensus was reached at the January 26 meeting on the general shape of possible changes and the Committee agreed to meet on February 6 to consider specific draft proposals.

The Committee reviewed a draft amendment to the Ethics Guidelines. After a thorough discussion, there was consensus reached in favor of recommending an amendment to the Ethics Guidelines to the House and Senate. The Committee members agreed to review a final draft, including all of the agreed-to revisions, to be circulated to them for their final approval.

ITEM #3

New/Other Business.

There was no new/other business.

ITEM #4

Scheduling of next meeting.

The Committee's next meeting will be at the call of the chair.

The Committee's meeting adjourned at 3:54 P.M.

{Prepared by: Richard M. Lambert, Executive Administrator}