



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

Second Year of the 167th General Court

Calendar and Journal of the 2022 Session

Web Site Address: www.gencourt.state.nh.us

Vol. 44

Concord, N.H.

Friday, March 4, 2022

No. 9

Contains: Bills Laid on Table; Committee Reports; House Bills Amended By Senate; House Deadlines; Meetings and Notices; Revised Fiscal Notes; and State House Visitation Schedule.

HOUSE CALENDAR

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE:

The House will meet on Thursday, March 10th at 9:00 a.m. in Representatives Hall. Additionally, please hold Tuesday, March 15th, Wednesday, March 16th, Thursday, March 17th and Thursday, March 31st as prospective meeting days. We have added the 15th to this list since last week due to the large number of bills remaining. We will let you know as soon as the dates have been confirmed.

Please plan on meeting in Representatives Hall for all House sessions moving forward. You can find more details on session day logistics in the back of this calendar.

On any session day, all legislators must park where they are assigned to park. Those with assigned street spaces should only park in the space assigned to them. Only those with assigned LOB garage spaces will be permitted to access the LOB garage. All others should park in the Storrs Street garage. There will be a shuttle operating all day to bring legislators to and from the Storrs Street garage to the State House. The shuttle will pick up and drop off passengers at the ground level of the garage.

As we near the end of winter, please be aware that we have received several complaints of vehicles with legislator plates who may have failed to properly clear snow off of their cars, possibly in violation of NH state law. As elected officials, we need to hold ourselves to high standards, and lead by example. No matter what the circumstance, there is no excuse for failure to comply with Jessica's Law or any other New Hampshire traffic law.

Please join me in praying for our colleague, Representative Renny Cushing, who announced this week that he is taking a medical leave of absence from his duties as Democratic Leader. Leader Cushing is a well-respected member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives and a dedicated public servant. I wish him the best as he takes this time to focus on his health and be with his family and loved ones.

Sherman A. Packard, Speaker of the House

NOTICE

ALL reports, scheduling and notices are due in the House Clerk's Office by **3:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAYS**. Reports and scheduling shall be turned in to House Committee Services for processing **no later than 1:00 p.m.** on Wednesday. Please be sure to complete that work in a timely fashion to meet the Calendar deadline.

CLOSES AT 3:00 p.m. ON:

Wednesday, March 09, 2022

Wednesday, March,16, 2022

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

AVAILABLE ON:

Friday, March 11, 2022

Friday, March 18, 2022

Friday, March 25, 2022

Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House

2022 HOUSE DEADLINES

Thursday, March 10, 2022

Thursday, March 17, 2022

Thursday, March 24, 2022

Thursday, March 31, 2022

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Thursday, April 28, 2022

Thursday, May 5, 2022

Last day to report House Bills not in a second committee

Last day to act on House Bills not in a second committee

Last day to report all House Bills

CROSSOVER – Last day to act on all House Bills

Last day to report Senate Bills going to a second committee

Last day to act on Senate Bills going to a second committee

Last day to report all Senate Bills

Last day to act on all Senate Bills

Thursday, May 12, 2022
 Thursday, May 19, 2022
 Thursday, May 26, 2022

Last day to form committees of conference
 Last day to sign committee of conference reports (4:00 p.m.)
 Last day to act on committee of conference reports

NOTICE

Please note that all streaming videos of committee meetings can be found at the NH House of Representatives YouTube channel. The link to the YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/c/NHHouseofRepresentativesCommitteeStreaming

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE REGARDING 319

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on February 23, 2022, I have vetoed House Bill 319, requiring students in the University and Community College System of New Hampshire to pass the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services civics naturalization test.

We all can agree that an education in civics is fundamental to our students. Last year I signed House Bill 320, which implements a similar civics competency exam for high school students. That requirement goes into effect in 2023 and will help continue the Granite State tradition of a citizenry actively engaged in self-government. As such, House Bill 319 would serve to address the lack of civics education only in out-of-state public post-secondary students.

House Bill 319 would also represent the first time the legislature has imposed a universal graduation requirement for students at our public colleges and universities. I am concerned that this would create a precedent for future legislatures to mandate extreme requirements.

There is no lesson more important than understanding our individual responsibility to uphold democracy. Nevertheless, I believe the legislature's passage of House Bill 320 already addresses the important concerns of an engaged citizenry and an understanding of the fundamentals of democracy without some of the challenges House Bill 319 may unintentionally create.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 319.

Respectfully submitted,
 Christopher T. Sununu
 Governor

BILLS LAID ON TABLE

HB 20-FN-A-L, establishing the Richard "Dick" Hinch education freedom account program. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 136, requiring schools to update documents and software to include the option of identifying a student as non-binary. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 147-FN, relative to assault against an elderly person. (Pending question: Ought to Pass)

HB 153, establishing a committee to study universal Internet access for New Hampshire. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 167-FN, relative to net energy metering limits for customer generators and the purchase of output of limited electrical energy producers. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 172, establishing greenhouse as emission reduction goals for the state and establishing a climate action plan. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 204, proclaiming January 24 as "Granny D" day. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 237-FN-A, relative to the legalization and regulation of cannabis and making appropriations therefor. (No pending question)

HB 255, relative to limited liability for institutions of higher education and businesses. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

HB 359, creating a private cause of action for discrimination based on hairstyles relative to a person's ethnicity. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 362, relative to domicile of students for voting purposes. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 376, establishing a committee to study applications of microgrids in electricity supply. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 382, establishing a commission to study the utility rate structure of demand charges. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 394, establishing a commission to study the short and long term impacts of pending national and regional carbon pricing mechanisms on New Hampshire's residents, agriculture, wildlife and natural resources-based tourism sector, and commercial enterprises. (Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 517-FN, relative to the state minimum hourly rate. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 531-FN-L, relative to determining the qualifications of voters and establishing provisional voter registration and provisional ballots. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 535, relative to the qualified voter affidavit. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 554, relative to temporary absence from domicile for voting purposes. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 607-FN, establishing local education savings accounts for students. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

HB 608-FN-A-L, relative to the formula for determining funding for an adequate education. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 611-FN, abolishing fluoridation in water. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

HB 620-FN-L, requiring law enforcement agencies to gather and analyze certain demographic information. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 622-FN, protecting nascent human life as a reasonable and valid state interest. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

HB 1100-FN, relative to changing the penalties for driving without a license. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1208-FN, relative to driver education. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1419-FN, relative to establishing a New Hampshire civilian climate corps advisory commission. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1465-FN, relative to the appointment of counsel for juveniles. (Pending question: adoption of the Committee amendment)

HB 1468-FN, relative to the legalization of cannabis. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1484-FN, requiring a forensic audit of the 2020 election results. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1506-FN, establishing a revolving clean energy accelerator fund in the department of energy. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1536-FN, relative to expanding Medicaid to include certain postpartum health care services. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 1578-FN, relative to including certain children and pregnant people in Medicaid and the children's health insurance program. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1601-FN, relative to funding of the NHsaves program. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1621-FN, relative to reducing the rebates distributed by the energy efficiency fund. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

HB 1654-FN, relative to termination of pregnancy statistics. (Pending question: Refer for Interim Study)

HB 1656-FN-A-L, establishing a road usage registration fee and making an appropriation therefor. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

SB 44, establishing the New Hampshire workforce pathway program. (Pending question: Inexpedient to Legislate)

SB 69, requiring employers to provide access to a sufficient space for nursing mothers and reasonable break time. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

SB 92-FN, relative to increasing the penalty for criminal mischief, the release of a defendant pending trial, and requiring law enforcement candidate background checks. (Pending question: adoption of the Majority Committee amendment)

2022 HOUSE BILLS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

HB 50, apportioning state representative districts. (SJ 2/16/22)

HB 55, (New Title) apportioning delegates to state party conventions, and relative to the form for declarations of candidacy for delegates to state party conventions. (SJ 2/16/22)

HB 95-FN, relative to milk pasteurization. (House Concurs 2/16/22)

HB 233-FN, (New Title) establishing a committee to study the right of any infant born alive to medically appropriate and reasonable care and treatment. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 292, relative to the absentee ballot application process. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 293, relative to the procedure for adoption of a minor child. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 307, relative to the state preemption of the regulation of firearms and ammunition. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 347-FN, relative to driving with a suspended license. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 381-FN, relative to laboratory testing. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 440, (New Title) prohibiting the suspension of civil liberties during a state of emergency. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 503, (Second New Title) codifying the council on housing stability and relative to telehealth and medically assisted treatment for substance use disorder. (SJ 1/5/22)

HB 549, (New Title) relative to the system benefits charge and the energy efficiency and sustainable energy board. (House Concur 2/16/22)

THURSDAY, MARCH 10 CONSENT CALENDAR

CHILDREN AND FAMILY LAW

HB 1142, relative to the right to submit evidence and testimony in family court proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Cody Belanger for Children and Family Law. It is the understanding of the committee that there are court rules that already allow for the submission of evidence. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1199, prohibiting reunification therapy. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Debra DeSimone for Children and Family Law. The committee discussed the pros and cons of reunification of children and parents. The conclusion was that this bill did not create a good process for families. The committee felt that reunification therapy is an important tool to strengthen a family. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1253, relative to the choice of counselor to evaluate a child in family court proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Debra DeSimone for Children and Family Law. The committee agreed that this bill did not resolve the choice-making process for counselors to treat children, and it could only create more conflict. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1265, relative to a judge's discretion to set aside rules in family court proceedings. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Josh Yokela for Children and Family Law. The majority of the committee found that, as amended, this bill would give the legislature necessary information to understand the scope of the issue surrounding family court judges waiving rules. There has been testimony that suggests that the waiving of rules may result in unjust decisions. Fairness is a significant part of justice and this bill will help us find injustices in the family court system. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1346, establishing a commission to study the New Hampshire family court system. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Josh Yokela for Children and Family Law. As amended, the bill forms a commission to study issues within the family court system. Many issues have been brought to the committee, but we need to dive deeper into the issue and get input from experts in the field to find a solution. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1436-FN, relative to appeals of family court decisions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jodi Nelson for Children and Family Law. This bill does not describe which decisions would be eligible for appeal. This bill would result in a significant increase in case load, requiring the appointment of new Superior Court judges and staff, and resulting in a substantial financial impact. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1458-FN, limiting harassing or intimidating court filings in family court proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Josh Yokela for Children and Family Law. The committee understands that people would prefer to not be in court more than necessary, however the court needs to consider the motions, and attendance is required for that process. This legislation would be primarily used against Pro Se litigants and the committee doesn't want to penalize Pro Se for exercising their right to represent themselves with a wide range of knowledge of the law possible. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1511-FN, relative to submitting officially authorized recordings of hearings for appeal of family court decisions. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jodi Nelson for Children and Family Law. This bill could result in disputes regarding the content of the record, as contents could be modified and different recordings and subsequent transcripts can differ from one another. The subject matter may not be confidential and could easily be shared to different outlets, such as social media which could have devastating results. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1515, relative to procedures for guardians ad litem in family court proceedings. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Josh Yokela for Children and Family Law. As amended the bill will ensure that the guardian ad litem is just a fact-finder and not recommending solutions to the judge, as that is not their role. **Vote 12-0.**

HB 1550-FN, relative to the right of children and teenagers to testify in family court proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Debra DeSimone for Children and Family Law. The committee unanimously felt that this bill would only create issues. This bill would allow children as young as 12 to testify in family court and thus be cross-examined by opposing council which could be emotionally damaging to the child. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1551, relative to the right of a party in a family court case to create their own written transcripts of court proceedings. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jodi Nelson for Children and Family Law. The reliability of transcripts is a tremendous concern if non-certified transcripts are allowed. As written, there is no criteria on standards as to format. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1651-FN, adding sexual reassignment to the definition of child abuse. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kimberly Rice for Children and Family Law. The committee believes this is a decision between the parents, child, doctor and mental health professionals. The legislature should not be making already difficult and trying times in a child's life even more difficult. **Vote 8-0.**

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 1025-FN, relative to impeding, provoking, or harassing law enforcement officers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Linda Harriott-Gathright for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would not have prohibited the recording of police officers during a situation such as what occurred during the tragic death of George Floyd. The reason this bill was found to be inexpedient to legislate is because the intent of the bill was to protect police officers from being harassed when performing their duty. However, such conduct is already illegal under NH law so there was no need to pass this bill. The prime sponsor of the bill asked to find the bill inexpedient to legislate before it was even introduced because it was agreed that the bill was unnecessary and obstructing a police officer from carrying out their official duty is already a crime. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1027-FN, establishing the crime of undermining legislative process by false claim of emergency. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Casey Conley for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would give the NH legislature the ability to pursue criminal charges against people who abuse a COVID-19 state of emergency. Regardless of how one feels about this, or the federalism questions involved, the US Supreme Court has already addressed this question. Therefore the issue is moot. The majority believes the bill should be defeated. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1145, relative to a motor vehicle exception to criminal restraint or false imprisonment and relative to civil immunity and physical force in defense of a person. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Burt for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The prime sponsor asked for this bill to be found inexpedient to legislate. Only one person spoke on the bill and they testified against this bill. The majority of the committee agreed. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 1232-FN, reducing the penalty for first offense drug possession and repealing certain mandatory minimum sentences. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Terry Roy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority, after having heard testimony from the sponsor and law enforcement, determined that this bill, while seemingly simple on its face, would have far reaching effects on the ability to reach plea agreements and also removes a strong deterrent to illegal drug activity near and around children. There are several other bills dealing with the same subject matter this term that the majority feels would be better vehicles for sentencing changes. Therefore, the majority recommends interim study of this bill. **Vote 17-1.**

HB 1333-FN, relative to previous convictions for driving while intoxicated. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Daryl Abbas for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Under the current law, to convict a person of a subsequent drunk driving charge, the prior conviction must have occurred within 10 years of the subsequent offense. This bill will extend the look-back period for third and fourth offenses to 20 years. Under the current law, it is unlikely that the third and fourth offenses would occur within the initial 10 year look-back period. People convicted of more than three offenses have not been rehabilitated and continue to engage in behavior that creates a serious risk to public safety and should not have such leniency under the law. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1577-FN, relative to exemptions from prosecution for victims of human trafficking. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Daryl Abbas for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill exempts victims of human trafficking from prosecution for non-violent offenses that are the direct result of the individual being trafficked. In addition, this bill allows a human trafficking victim to vacate criminal convictions that were closely related to their victimization. The committee believes that it is an injustice for victims of human trafficking to have criminal charges or criminal convictions that directly relate to being trafficked. This bill prevents this injustice from occurring in the future and gives victims the opportunity to correct this injustice. **Vote 20-0.**

ELECTION LAW

CACR 22, relating to elections. Providing that all elections in New Hampshire shall be by ranked-choice voting. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Fenton Groen for Election Law. This CACR proposes to amend the New Hampshire constitution to require that “All elections in New Hampshire shall be conducted by ranked-choice voting, the procedure of which shall be determined by the general court.” While some members of the committee have interest in pursuing a rank choice voting methodology, this would require all elections to be conducted this way. Testimony indicated some questions on the process to get ballots to a tabulation site, where that would be, and how long it would take. While some states have utilized the process in non-federal elections, there are too many uncertainties and questions regarding the method to make this process of voting a constitutional requirement in all elections. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1008, establishing a commission to study the structure and election calendar of New Hampshire municipal government. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law.

This bill would establish a study committee to look at the municipal election calendar with the intent of increasing participation in local elections. While the committee agrees that local elections are very important and that turnout is low, it was found that there was little interest in forming a study committee at this time. The committee agreed that something like this is more appropriate in the beginning of the legislative season, not at the end. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1010-FN, requiring municipal voter history to be made accessible in the statewide centralized voter registration database. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Joe Sweeney for Election Law. This bill as amended clarifies the intent of current law and requires municipal voter history to be made accessible in the statewide, centralized voter registration database. This data is already available to the public on a local level and the state already has that information in its data record. This bill just requires the state to make it part of the statewide database information that can be viewed and made available to political organizations. This will enable persons interested in supporting high turnout in elections to identify those voters who need support to participate in local municipal elections, and allow local candidates to have that information in one set of records. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1149, relative to the number of names required for nomination by nomination papers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Fenton Groen for Election Law. This bill proposes to reduce by 2/3's the number of names required to nominate a person for state and federal offices in NH. In addition, it would reduce from 3% to 1% the number of votes required in a statewide race for a political organization to be included on the ballot in the next general election. The committee heard testimony from the Secretary of State's office, and others, that making these substantial reductions to the threshold for getting a name on the ballot would have the likely affect of crowding the ballots and could cause the ballots to be printed on multiple pages. The committee believes that our current thresholds are reasonable and by a unanimous vote recommend that this bill be found inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1157, relative to electronic ballot counting devices. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Peter Torosian for Election Law. This bill proposes to put in law what is current practice. It amends RSA 656:42 to prohibit electronic ballot devices from being connected to the internet. This will prevent any intentional or unintentional tampering or hacking into any of these ballot counting devices and help to maintain confidence in the accuracy of outcomes and our election integrity. At the current time there is consideration by some municipalities of replacing the current ballot counting machines. The devices currently available in the market all have enhanced capability which allows for the interface to public internet. This bill would prevent the use of machines with internet connection. By enacting this legislation New Hampshire is taking a step to ensure that our elections are accurate, secure, and without outside interference **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1174, relative to election challengers. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Fenton Groen for Election Law. This bill provides for qualified election observers to observe the process tabulating the votes from a distance of not more than six feet from where the votes are tabulated. It also requires that such observers shall be permitted to maintain line of sight to any electronic ballot counting device. The amendment clarifies the language of the original bill regarding the right of observers to be not more than six feet from where votes are tabulated. The committee agreed that allowing visual access to qualified election observers is an essential component of election integrity. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1197, relative to the definition of “party” for election purposes. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Joe Sweeney for Election Law. This bill proposes to lower the threshold to obtain party status in NH from 4% of the vote on the preceding statewide ballot to 1% of the vote. This would drastically lower the threshold for recognized party status, a privilege for political organizations that have demonstrated a history

of support in the state. Third-party candidates currently have generous access to the ballot via petitions and recently a third party had obtained the status to be placed on the statewide ballot. Any candidates unable to collect the requisite petitions are able to run write-in campaigns. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1252, relative to political contributions made by certain business entities. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Torosian for Election Law. The bill prohibits any business organization that receives grants from the state of New Hampshire from making any contribution to any candidate or political committee. It is intended to prevent conflict of interest situations. While the majority of the committee feels it is important to safeguard against conflict of interests, testimony on the bill raised a number of issues. It was not clear what the impact would be on organizations that receive federal dollars that are passed through the state, or upon community grant recipients or American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) money grantees. It was suggested that this might be better handled as a contractual issue. While it is important to ensure that there are defined rules for business contributions directly to NH state agencies, candidates, or PACs that are self serving in nature, this legislation is too broadly worded and could have unintended consequences on work outside of the state. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1324, establishing a formula to allocate presidential electors to presidential nominees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Ross Berry for Election Law. This bill attempts to distribute New Hampshire's four electoral college votes based on the percentage each candidate received in the general election. It was discovered during the hearing that this distribution would lead to third parties getting 25% of the electoral college votes while only getting a minimal number of votes in the election. Furthermore the committee agrees that New Hampshire's winner-take-all system encourages presidential candidates to campaign in New Hampshire and boosts the state's voice on a national level. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1359, relative to the election-day duties of incumbent election officials who also appear on the ballot. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. James Qualey for Election Law. This bill attempts to address the appearance of conflict presented when certain election officials (moderators, selectman, and supervisors of the checklist) and inspectors of elections perform election day duties for elections in which they also appear on the ballot. It proposes to do so by disqualifying said officials from performing election duties in such an election. The bill also would prohibit such officials from remaining inside the guardrail during the counting of votes for the offices for which they are candidates. Furthermore, the bill proposes that the presence of such officials in the vicinity of the polling place shall be confined to spaces designated for electioneering by the moderator. These proposed changes to existing state law raised several issues for the committee. For example, the committee is concerned about the constitutionality of the bill's proposal (in part 1) that, in order to prevent a potential for perceived conflict, the moderator will be deprived of his or her constitutionally-mandated authority and duty to govern elections and "receive the votes of the inhabitants" (NH Constitution Part 2, Article 32). In addition, the proposal to limit an official's presence to the designated electioneering spaces (Part 3) also raises First Amendment concerns. Also, the rationale for not imposing the bill's provisions on other election officials (town clerk, deputy moderator, assistant moderator, etc.) is unclear and was not discussed during the public hearing. Finally, during the hearings, practical concerns were raised by those giving testimony (and committee members as well) regarding the availability of knowledgeable and willing substitutes for moderators (in particular) and for selectmen in city wards, the sole duty of which is to conduct elections. **Vote 20-0.**

ENVIRONMENT AND AGRICULTURE

HB 1517-FN, creating a pollinator solar scorecard. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Bixby for Environment and Agriculture. This bill sought to create a voluntary program for solar power facilities to be accredited as pollinator friendly by conforming to a set of planting and land use guidelines overseen by the NH Department of Environmental Services and Cooperative Extension. In consulting with Cooperative Extension, the prime sponsor learned that the bill as proposed would not work as intended, and requested that the committee deem it inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 14-2.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 314, relative to homestead food operation licensure. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Tony Lekas for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill changes the cap on "gross annual sales" for a homestead kitchen from \$20,000 to \$35,000 before the operation would be required to move into a commercial kitchen with the attendant regulation. This change reflects the dramatic increase in cost of goods sold, and gives homeowners more flexibility in generating revenue from their homestead kitchen before scaling up to a full commercial operation. Only foods that are not potentially hazardous may be sold. Potentially hazardous foods are those that are capable of supporting the rapid growth of dangerous microorganisms. **Vote 16-0.**

HB 1287, proclaiming March as Sleep Awareness Month. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jeffrey Goley for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill is similar to many others that have come before the Executive Departments and Administration Committee (ED&A) looking to have placed into statute an important event or cause, many of which are already recognized nationally. The majority of the committee considers these types of bills ineffective because there are many of these types of events already in statute that are overlooked/unknown once the initial celebrations are completed. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1314, establishing a committee to study the management and oversight of the New Hampshire veterans' home. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Yakubovich for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill created a study committee on management of the state veterans' home. The veterans' group behind the bill expressed needing more time to work on the language and open issues. The recent recommendations from the previous study committee on the veteran's home need to be implemented as well. Additionally, the management committee is going through membership changes, and newly elected members will be better suited to concentrate on legislation in the near future. The committee did not see the value in another study at this time. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1321, relative to the governor's power to declare a state of emergency. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jennifer Rhodes for Executive Departments and Administration. The committee agreed that the aim of this legislation as conveyed by the prime sponsor was somewhat unclear. The committee has already passed several bills that address state of emergency powers granted to the governor, and therefore the committee did not see a need for this legislation. **Vote 17-1.**

HB 1354, relative to regulation by the New Hampshire real estate commission. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Tony Lekas for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill does two things regarding the licensure of real estate brokers and sales persons. First, currently, if a real estate broker or salesperson makes a referral for which their contract with the broker provides for future compensation (for example if a sale closes or a lease is renewed) statute prohibits the broker from paying that contractually agreed on compensation if the real estate broker's license becomes inactive in the meantime. Their license might go inactive if they stop working as a broker because they retired, became unable to do the work due to illness, or because they chose to pursue different work. This bill would not permit a real estate broker or salesperson from doing new work with an inactive license. However it would permit them to be paid for work which they did while their license was active. Second, currently, if a real estate broker or salesperson comes to New Hampshire and wishes to practice here they can get a New Hampshire license based on their active license from another jurisdiction only if that jurisdiction has previously entered into a licensing reciprocity agreement with New Hampshire. The problem is that many states don't join such agreements. As a result, real estate brokers or salespeople who come here must start the licensing procedure from the beginning even though they may have many years of experience. This bill as amended would grant such person a New Hampshire license so long as they hold an active real estate license from another jurisdiction, have passed the national portions of the licensing examination, and passed the New Hampshire portion of the licensing examination. If the license they have from another jurisdiction did not require passing the national portions of the licensing examination they would have to pass it prior to getting a New Hampshire license. The amendment makes the language in the bill consistent and changes the effective date from 60 to 90 days to provide enough time to implement these changes. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1443, proclaiming the first Monday of March as COVID-19 Victims and Survivors Memorial Day. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jaci Grote for Executive Departments and Administration. As in previous bills presented to this committee, we consider other outlets more feasible and productive for commemorative days such as local programs and/or proclamations by the Governor. **Vote 14-1.**

HB 1446-FN, relative to the governing board of recreational therapists and relative to the governing board of respiratory care practitioners. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dianne Schuett for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill changes the governing boards of recreational therapists and respiratory care practitioners to advisory boards. The change was requested by the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) along with several others because of issues recruiting members to serve and having quorums at meetings. The bill does direct the executive director of OPLC to consult with the boards on decisions other than administrative duties. It is intended that the director should contact board members on decisions of practice, education and rules of practice even if the board cannot meet. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1549, relative to special duty hours worked by retired police members in the retirement system. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Stephen Pearson for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would increase the amount of retired hours a retiree can work by eliminating special duty law enforcement. The definition of special duty

law enforcement is not defined in statute. This would allow retired members to completely work full time while retired. This has several problems. The primary one involves retirees going over weekly hours under the Affordable Care Act, thus requiring the municipality to provide health insurance. The current yearly hour limitation exists to also prevent double dipping in the retirement system. This bill would allow double dipping and thus be detrimental to the retirement system. **Vote 17-0.**

HB 1681-FN, relative to the state building code. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Stephen Pearson for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill as amended brings NH into the 2018 set of national codes. This includes the building code, plumbing code, mechanical code, energy conservation code, swimming pool and spa code and residential code. The amendment adds in the inadvertently omitted Fire Code. These codes work in conjunction with each other. This bill would put NH one code cycle behind, which has been common practice for the State of NH for many years. The committee heard testimony from all of the various trade organizations who all testified in favor of the adoption of this code set. **Vote 18-0.**

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 1003, prohibiting health care providers from refusing to provide care or services based on patient vaccination status. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Leah Cushman for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. As amended, this one-line bill inserts the following into the Patient Bill of Rights statute: "The patient shall not be denied admission, care, or services based solely on the patient's vaccination status." The Patient Bill of Rights is outlined in RSA 151:21 and applies to patients admitted to medical facilities such as hospitals. No patient should be denied medical care based solely on vaccination status. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1099, prohibiting the department of health and human services from requiring vaccine passports for services. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Leah Cushman for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill serves to clarify that the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is included in entities prohibited from requiring the Medical Freedom in Immunizations Act. It further ensures that DHHS shall not require proof of vaccination for any of the programs, benefits or services it provides. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1320, relative to public exposure of deceased human bodies. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill repeals the current embalming statute, RSA 325:40-a, which states "No dead human body shall be exposed to the public for a period in excess of 24 hours unless said body is properly embalmed." That is our only embalming statute and is prone to misinterpretation by funeral professionals and lay people alike, suggesting that embalming is required when it is not. Embalming is not necessary from a public health point of view and may be contraindicated in death from certain diseases. Refrigeration can take the place of embalming if preservation is needed or desired due to a delay in viewing or burial. This bill does not prohibit embalming. Embalming would still be an option. Funeral homes would still be able to set their own policies for embalming or refrigeration and advertise their policies. This would allow the consumer to choose what they desire regarding embalming under a free market, giving the deceased and their family a choice unfettered by an outdated and confusing statute. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1334, relative to the definition of vaccination. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark Pearson for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The bill's sponsor testified the bill was not ready, in part because the medical world is in flux due to the pandemic. The committee unanimously agreed. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1466, relative to the off-label use of prescription drugs and relative to pharmacy prescriptions. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Erica Layon for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. The committee agrees that the use of off-label medications is common and important. Off-label treatments can be commonplace or cutting edge, and the amendment provides a pathway for a physician, a surgeon, a nurse practitioner or a physician's assistant to document that they have provided and documented informed consent including a disclosure that a prescription is for off-label use. It also provides for routine off-label use that is well supported by scientific evidence to happen as it does today. The amended bill further states that in any disciplinary hearing, the prescriber should be held to the same standard of care as if he or she is prescribing a drug for an FDA approved indication. It also protects pharmacists from action from the licensing board for filling a valid off-label prescription. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1507, requiring childcare investigatory findings to be timely published. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jerry Knirk for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill requires childcare investigatory findings to be published in a timely fashion. It amends the process of posting for the public on the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) website the findings of investigatory and monitoring visits and final decisions regarding licensing of childcare agencies. At least 15 business days before the posting, DHHS

must provide notification to the child daycare agency of its findings. If the agency responds before the posting, their response will be posted as well. It gives DHHS 21 business days to post the findings. This information shall remain on the website for a period of 3 years. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1616-FN, relative to the prohibition against a minor's possession of hypodermic needles without a prescription. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Beth Folsom for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill represents a concern raised by a constituent focusing upon what instances a minor would be allowed to be in legal possession of a hypodermic needle. In discussions with the sponsor of this bill, a decision was made that rather than have a study committee formed, a group of stakeholders should gather to produce a bill to present possible policy recommendations. Doing this would alleviate the need to staff another committee. Moreover, doing this would more quickly address the need this bill. **Vote 20-0.**

JUDICIARY

HB 1140, relative to probate procedures for small estates. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill would establish a simple probate procedure for small estates. Unfortunately, the process proposed involves paper documents for which the all-electronic probate court is not equipped to handle. Further, the bill provided no process to notify debtors, including the state, who testified we could lose a million dollars or more annually from this failure. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 1147, relative to governmental records available upon request. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark McLean for Judiciary. This bill explicitly requires public bodies or agencies to make available for inspection or copying; school curricula, reading lists, and student survey dates and questions. The sponsor felt that there was a need for this legislation because requests for this type of information are often denied, and that making the requirement explicit would address the issue. However, transparency watchdogs including New Hampshire Right to Know, were opposed to the bill because it takes the broad language in the existing statute and markedly narrows it down. The concern, therefore, is that the bill may have the unintended consequence of reducing transparency in other areas in the future. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1181-FN, allowing the biological father of an unborn child to petition the court for an injunction prohibiting the biological mother from having an abortion. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill seeks to establish that the father of a pre-born child has legal rights when the mother seeks to abort their child. While this right has been tacitly acknowledged under the current *Roe v. Wade* framework, it hasn't been codified anywhere. The majority commends the sponsor for his work to protect the life of fathers and the pre-born, but the complexity of addressing what are necessarily third tier rights was more than we could overcome and so recommend the bill for Interim Study. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 1195, relative to public comment periods at public meetings. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for Judiciary. This bill, as amended, provides that there must be a public comment period at the beginning of each public meeting of a school board or school administrative unit (SAU) board. The public comment period would be held before any substantive business is conducted. Individual comment could be limited to three minutes and the comment period need be no longer than one hour. The period would need to be no longer than necessary to hear all those who wish to speak. This would not limit a board from receiving public comments during other times during a meeting. The original bill required all public bodies to have a fixed public comment period. The amendment provides only for school boards and SAU boards as that is where the testimony heard by the committee indicated that a problem exists. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1206-FN, relative to the source of funding for appointment of counsel or other services for indigent persons. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for Judiciary. This bill provides that when an indigent person who has been convicted of a crime is subject to DNA or biological testing and is entitled to be represented by court appointed counsel, the cost of the appointed counsel shall be paid from the Indigent Defense Fund. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1315, relative to immunity from civil liability for sports officials. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill would grant immunity from civil liability for any qualified individual who officiates any sporting event for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury to another person absent willful or gross negligence by the official. Proponents fear that a referee or coach could be sued over an accident or injury for which that person had no responsibility or control. The committee, in concert with our historic practice, felt such an unlikely suit is a small risk alongside many others commonly accepted and unanimously recommended the bill Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1322, modifying the governmental records exempted from RSA 91-A. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marjorie Smith for Judiciary. While perhaps well-intentioned, this bill lacks definition of key terms such as "governmental agency." It would permit personnel records to be widely shared and could be detrimental to the individual and the agency. There are statutes in the area of labor and law enforcement that address in a more appropriate manner the issues raised by the bill. **Vote 19-2.**

HB 1325, relative to release of confidential records of a person appointed a guardian. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill, as amended, will ensure a guardian will release medical, financial, or other confidential records of a ward to that ward when the ward seeks to amend or terminate the guardianship. The bill both establishes the ward's right to such records and, by the amendment, the guardian's responsibility to provide them to the ward unless the guardian can demonstrate to the court such release would not be in the ward's best interests. The committee sees this as another step in our continuing effort to empower people to have as much control over their own lives as possible. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1343, allowing limited legal services to be provided by certain paraprofessionals. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for Judiciary. This bill will establish a pilot program, allowing, under limited circumstances, qualified paraprofessionals to represent clients in certain family division and landlord-tenant matters. The paraprofessional must be employed or retained by a licensed attorney who carries professional liability insurance. The paraprofessional must meet certain educational and professional experience requirements. At the commencement of any representation, the paraprofessional must notify the client and the court of their non-attorney status and the name of the attorney who is supervising them. The pilot would be limited to two Circuit Court locations – Manchester and Berlin. The pilot will remain in effect for a two-year period and a sunset is provided in this legislation. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1435, relative to the right of a victim of domestic violence to have a support person present when testifying or being deposed. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for Judiciary. The purpose of this bill is to allow parties in family court proceedings to have a support person. The committee fully supports the intention behind this bill and agrees that victims of domestic violence should be supported. However, there are issues with the bill. The testimony described the need for specialized support, but the bill is general and does not address special circumstances. The bill provides, as written, for either party, not just victims, to be supported. Should we be advocating for support for perpetrators? It also restricts the judge with regard to the courtroom behavior of the support person. There are support services currently available throughout the state and persons filing domestic violence petitions are referred to those agencies by the court. While the committee might be able to work on this bill, it also knows that a Domestic Violence Task Force has been empaneled and is currently developing recommendations. The committee finds that it would be best to wait for their recommendations before taking further action on this bill. Therefore, the committee has recommended Interim Study. **Vote 20-0.**

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

HB 1124, requiring businesses to use the federal E-Verify system of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Sullivan for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The majority of the committee believes that the E-Verify system for determining an employment candidate's eligibility to work in New Hampshire is unreliable and an unnecessary mandate on employers. Testimony in committee indicated that non-typical names could trip up the system and identify an eligible candidate as ineligible. Correcting the error is often a lengthy process and would prevent an individual from working for that time period. The majority of the committee also feels that the I-9 process for determining eligibility is effective and more accurate. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 1143, relative to medical mandates adopted by employers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Mark Warden for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill would require employers who implement a "medical mandate" (undefined) and then terminate an employee for opting out of said requirement, would be forced by law to pay up to six months of severance pay to the employee. The amount of the severance pay is stipulated as two-thirds of the employee's "salary and any benefits received while employed." While salary is mentioned in the bill, there is no allowance for commissions, bonuses, or tips, which often are a sizable portion of a worker's compensation. The committee believes this flaw, along with a lack of definition of "medical mandate," makes the legislation impractical and overly burdensome on employers. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1156-FN, requiring certain public servants to receive a copy of a pre-employment background investigation. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. William Infantine for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The majority of the committee feels that this bill is not necessary. The bill would require that certain public servants receive copies of pre-employment background investigations. The sponsor felt that these should be provided in cases where employment was denied. The sponsor felt that providing them was a better solution to having to file a court case and bringing the request to a judge. The committee heard compelling testimony from law enforcement who perform most of the employment background investigations for new officers and officers looking to advance their positions. The two law enforcement officers that testified mentioned that, in their long career, only one candidate who was denied a position requested to see the investigation and took the case to a court. They

further explained that the candidates are aware of the issues that resulted in the denial of the employment. Lastly, they were concerned that it was important to protect individuals who were interviewed as part of the investigation that may have provided damaging information. **Vote 19-2.**

HB 1351, prohibiting certain employers from requiring a COVID-19 vaccination as a condition of employment. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Seaworth for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill is similar to several other bills before this committee. The committee prefers to combine the best ideas into an amendment to HB 1210, making this bill redundant. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1358, requiring public and private employers to establish procedures and exceptions for the use of mandatory intrusive testing as a condition of new or continued employment. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Andrew Prout for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This well-intentioned bill sought to protect employees from excessive medical testing requirements. However, several issues were raised about how to draw a clear line between excessive and reasonable testing requirements, such as for an annual physical or post-accident drug testing as required in some industries. For those reasons and a few more, we recommend this bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1363, relative to the enforceability of noncompete agreements in areas in which there is determined to be a critical shortage of workers. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Seaworth for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This is the second of two bills before the committee this year to address a problem related to non-compete agreements. The committee has decided to use HB 1089 to address the subject matter, making this bill redundant. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1377, relative to unemployment benefits for employees terminated for refusing to comply with a vaccine mandate. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Lino Avellani for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill seeks to add an additional six months of unemployment compensation to a certain segment of the workforce beyond the maximum amount currently allowed. While well-intentioned, it will place an additional financial burden on all businesses that contribute to the unemployment security fund. For this reason, the committee recommends this bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 1410, relative to causes of action involving private business entity policies requiring employees or customers to receive medical treatment. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Gregg Hough for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This bill was one of several bills in the committee that had dealt with fallout from COVID-19 and situations that arose in the NH business communities both in the public and private sectors. As such, a sub-committee was formed where portions of these bills were used to help draft positive legislation to address these issues. This was one of these bills, and the prime sponsor agreed to the purpose and scope of the appointed sub-committee. As a result, this bill is recommended as Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1415, relative to employer health screening reimbursement. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brian Seaworth for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The language of this bill restates a requirement already in law (RSA 275:3), but tailors it specifically to “health screening.” The committee believes that the intent of this bill is already fully enforced by the NH Department of Labor and that an additional law would not add value. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1569-FN, relative to the status of “totally unemployed” for purposes of unemployment compensation. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Leonard Turcotte for Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The prime sponsor of this bill requested that the committee recommend Inexpedient to Legislate at its initial hearing and as such we unanimously do so. **Vote 21-0.**

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 1026, relative to budget information provided to a budget committee. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Tony Piemonte for Municipal and County Government. This bill increases the transparency of public budgets and will increase the confidence in the budgeting process. A line item active spreadsheet will give instant results of recommendations to the committee and will empower officials to do a better job scrutinizing public budgets. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1068, relative to building codes for tiny houses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jim Maggiore for Municipal and County Government. Currently, a small home, greater than 400 square feet, can be built on a foundation and comply with state building code standards. A “tiny home” as defined in Appendix Q of the 2018 International Building Code can also be constructed on a foundation in compliance with state building codes. Universally acceptable standards do not currently exist for “tiny homes” on wheels.

National industry experts expressed concerns that this bill would not have created a comprehensive standard for tiny homes on wheels. Standards are being developed for the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) that will standardize the process for engineering requirements for “tiny homes” on wheels, expand on Appendix Q for tiny houses in the International Residential Code (IRC) certification, provide regulations for tiny house communities, and establish the potential for micro-grid utilities that connect multiple tiny houses in cluster communities. It will be better to wait for a comprehensive bill than to pass a bill that may prove to be flawed. **Vote 15-0.**

HB 1122, authorizing municipalities to collect and resell construction and demolition debris. **OUGHT TO PASS.** Rep. Diane Pauer for Municipal and County Government. This bill authorizes municipalities to collect and resell construction and demolition debris. Solid waste management is a significant and growing concern across the New Hampshire. Presently, municipalities may collect such refuse; but they are not permitted to resell it. By allowing municipalities to both collect and resell construction materials and demolition debris, the tipping fees that towns must pay in order to dispose of the trash, as well as, the amount of waste that goes into landfills is significantly reduced. Additionally, the sale of these waste items to either individuals or to third parties for reuse generates additional revenues for the town. Both increased revenues and decreased spending at the municipal level translates to lower local property taxes. Lastly, this bill facilitates reducing, reusing and recycling within our communities which helps to protect and preserve the landscape and the natural beauty of the granite state. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1183, relative to the calculation of property taxes for residents 75 years of age and older. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Lascelles for Municipal and County Government. Although the goal of lessening the impact of taxes on the elderly is indeed laudable, the committee felt that decreasing the taxes on one group causes the taxes on others to go up. In some cases, older citizens are more able to afford taxes than younger families. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1277, relative to the reporting of cybersecurity incidents. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Richard Tripp for Municipal and County Government. This bill establishes the requirement for entities which interact with the Department of Information Technology to report any cybersecurity incidents immediately in order to minimize any adverse effects resulting from the incident. **Vote 19-0.**

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 1032-LOCAL, relative to the sale of the Lakes Region facility. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Graham for Public Works and Highways. This bill would repeal RSA 10:11 which became law last year as part of HB 2, and gives the Governor and Council the sole authority to sell the Lakes Region Facility. The Governor and Council have already instructed the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to begin marketing the property. DAS has begun this process. Additionally the Mayor of Laconia testified that he and the city are satisfied with this process. While there was some sentiment on the committee to reinsert legislative participation in the sale (RSA 4:40) it was determined that the process was too far advanced to take this step. Therefore the committee recommends that this bill be found to be inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 1548-LOCAL, relating to the sale of the Lakes Region Facility. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Mark McConkey for Public Works and Highways. The process for the sale of the Lakes Region Facility is contained in RSA 10:11, enacted as part of HB 2 last year. The property is currently being marketed. A portion of the property includes the parcel identified as 5-67 Communication Drive which contains a 911 call center and Lakes Region Mutual Aid. If the sale of the property includes this parcel then this bill, as amended, states that some of the proceeds of the sale will be used to relocate the facility to a new location. **Vote 23-0.**

HB 1593-FN, requiring the department of transportation to erect sound barriers on Interstate Route 95 in the city of Portsmouth. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Graham for Public Works and Highways. This bill requires the Department of Transportation to erect sound barriers along sections of I-95 in Portsmouth. The committee has historically been consistent about not approving highway or turnpike funded projects outside of the Ten-Year Plan process. In fact, the draft Ten-Year Plan includes funding for sound walls along I-95 in Portsmouth. **Vote 18-0.**

RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

HB 1066, establishing a commission to investigate and analyze the environmental and human and animal health impacts relating to cyanobacteria blooms in New Hampshire water bodies. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Jim Creighton for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill as introduced sought to establish a commission to investigate and analyze the environmental and human and animal health impacts relating to

cyanobacteria blooms in New Hampshire water bodies. The bill as amended forgoes the commission establishment and instead directs the Department of Environmental Services (DES) to develop a plan, in coordination with appropriate stakeholders, to combat and mitigate the growth and expansion of cyanobacteria in New Hampshire. This amendment to the original bill quickens the process by directing department action against this emerging challenge to the Granite State environment. DES supports the bill as amended. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1109, relative to approval for off highway recreational vehicles use on class V and class VI roads. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Andrew Renzullo for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill, as introduced, is an act relative to the approval for off highway recreational vehicles (OHRV's) use on class 5 and class 6 roads. Presently the authority for such approvals rests with the Boards of Selectmen. This bill transfers the approval authority to the legislative body of the municipal entity (i.e, town meeting for Towns, etc.) The committee has been involved, for several sessions, in the issue of OHRV use being allowed on public roads. The committee feels that the legislative deliberations (like town meetings) are best suited for this approval process due to (among other items) the level of public notice, the attendance of town voters and the number of residents involved in the decision making process. The amendment added class 4 roads to the class 5 & class 6 roads affected, as enumerated in the original bill. Class 6 roads are not maintained by the town, class 5 roads are maintained town roads, and class 4 roads are roads in a compact area. The amendment also clarified the wording of the approval process and the rescission process; making it clear that the approval authority rests with the legislative body and the rescission authority also rests with the legislative body. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1128, relative to financial liability for damage caused by OHRV use of class VI roads. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Andrew Renzullo for Resources, Recreation and Development. This is an act relative to the financial liability for damage caused by OHRV use on class 6 roads. Presently the law allows that class 6 roads, which are not required to be maintained by the town, can be repaired by the abutters at the abutters expense and with the permission of the town. This bill would have required the town, should they authorize OHRV use on a class 6 road, to be responsible for damages to the road caused by the use of the OHRVs. The committee has previously passed HB1188, a bill proposing a commission, to study OHRV use in the state. Part of that commission's duties would be to study "the positive and adverse effects of OHRV use on state and town roads." Also to study "the effects of dust, noise and careless or reckless behavior of riders on abutters to trails and roads where OHRV's are used." The committee would like to see where the HB1188 commission might consider the actions proposed by HB1128 to be part of the solutions to the issues the commission is charged to remedy. The prime sponsor agrees. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1167, establishing a maximum contaminant level for perfluorinated chemicals in surface water. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Eamon Kelley for Resources, Recreation and Development. Awareness of the dangers of perfluorochemicals (PFCs) is on the rise in New Hampshire and around the country. This group of compounds is often referred to as "forever chemicals" because of their ability to withstand natural degradation. New Hampshire has already established standards for the presence of some of these chemicals in drinking water. Drinking water is an important pathway, but it only represents some of the ways these chemicals can enter the human body. Protecting our surface waters from contamination is important to making sure that our streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes remain available for all uses by future generations. Although this bill attempts to deal with the dangers presented by these chemicals, it comes precisely as the Department of Environmental Services (DES) prepares to release their own standards for these chemicals. Those standards will be based on a comprehensive process that involves input from prominent stake holders, leading scientists, and the greater public. The committee feels that the best course of action is to allow that process to reach completion. At the same time, the committee recognizes that there are issues surrounding PFCs raised in this bill and others this session that may require legislative action. The committee's recommendation of interim study will allow us to evaluate those bills together along with the new DES standards and return to the body with the necessary legislation to best protect New Hampshire's pristine waters. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1185, relative to treatment of water contaminated with perfluorinated chemicals. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Robert Healey for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill provides the statutory authority to allow a wastewater treatment plant to have septage coming from industrial or commercial sites be tested for perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) prior to acceptance. This bill was amended to provide an exemption for residential septic waste. As an example, the town of Merrimack accepts septage loads from 16 New Hampshire communities. They take this septage and turn it into compost, thereby eliminating having to send off the septage to a biohazard wastewater facility that handles septage which is an expensive proposition at \$400/ton. When the septage is turned to compost we are helping the environment by returning the compost to the soil as fertilizer. If we limit the PFAS in the incoming septage loads, then we can continue to create compost

that is safe for use in regulated situations. If we do not act, then the composting could be rendered useless due to PFAS contamination and it will cost approximately \$2 million/year to dispose of this septic waste, most likely in another state. Also, should PFAS contaminated septage enter the treatment facility, the treatment facility is not equipped to treat the resulting water for PFAS, therefore releasing treated water containing PFAS back into the environment and rivers. A town's waste water treatment facility and the townspeople should not have to pay to treat PFAS Contaminated wastewater. The committee unanimously recommended that this bill as amended, ought to pass. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1188, establishing a commission to study OHRV use in the state. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Suzanne Smith for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill will form a commission to study all things related to off highway recreational vehicles (OHRVs). Since 1989 when the first OHRV bill was introduced in the NH legislature, this activity has grown exponentially leading to conflicts between those who use trails, an increase in serious accidents, (most caused by inexperienced riders) and conflicts between landowners whose properties or homes abut trails or roads used for OHRVs. The amendment adjusted the membership to provide a better balance of membership. It now includes representation from OHRV associations, fish and game department, NH bureau of trails, landowners and abutters and public members as well as legislators. Its charge is to review all statutes related to OHRVs; work with various law enforcement agencies to provide consistency in enforcement; study the positive and negative effects of OHRV use on roads; effects of noise, dust and careless behavior of riders on abutters to trails and roads where OHRVs are used; and improve education and safety requirements for OHRV users. No one testified in opposition to this bill at the public hearing and the committee voted unanimously ought to pass as amended. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1292, permitting the use of drones or unmanned aerial vehicles on the statewide trail system. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Suzanne Smith for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill would allow the launching and landing of unmanned aircraft weighing up to 55 pounds anywhere on the statewide trail system. No permit or permission would be required if the person is a certified remote pilot. If an operator does not have this certificate, a phone call to the commissioner's office between 30 minutes and 24 hours of launch is all that would be required. This time frame would make enforcement almost impossible. Testimony from supporters of the bill focused their attention on flying drones in state parks. However, this bill makes no mention of parks, only the statewide trail system. NH's statewide trail system is comprised of both public lands and private property. Property owners sign easements which opens their land to the public for designated uses such as OHRVs, snowmobiles, and equestrians. Property owners are not paid for these easements. Those opposed to the bill, including representatives of the NH Farm Bureau and the NH Timberland Owners who stated that passage of this bill would necessitate the rewriting of all easement contracts and lead to property owners closing their land to the public. Committee members voiced strong concerns about the privacy of those utilizing the trails as well as the privacy of the property owners who have donated easements to the state for trail use. The committee was unanimous in its agreement that the use of drones is growing among all age groups but this legislation will cause more problems than it will solve. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1316, directing the director of the state police to develop requirements for eFoil and electric hydrofoil surfboard watercraft. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Suzanne Gottling for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill directs the director of the state police to make rules relative to safety requirements of eFoil and electric hydrofoil surfboard watercraft. An eFoil is a surfboard with motor, propeller and hydrofoil powered by a lithium-ion battery. The rider usually rides the board standing up which enables the eFoil to travel 2 to 3 feet above water level at 25 to 30 miles per hour. It is noiseless and wakeless. This watercraft is designated a boat at present but does not have appropriate safety requirements in rules. This bill enables the director of state police to make these rules. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1438-FN, relative to the use of a mooring by person other than the permit holder. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Eamon Kelley for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill would allow for the temporary transfer of mooring permits. The sponsor testified that his intent was to allow permit holders of moorings in tidal waters to grant use of their moorings to whoever they chose at no charge for up to 30 days. However, that is not how the bill is written and the process for applying for mooring permits is different depending on whether a person is applying for a permit on an inland waterway or a tidal waterway. The state has long-established systems for the dispensing of mooring permits. Marine Patrol regulates inland waterway permits and the Pease Port Authority regulates moorings in tidal areas. Due to our compact seacoast area, there is a limited amount of safe harbor available. The state has a long-established system of dispensing permits in tidal mooring areas. The Pease Port Authority is tasked by the state with administering this system. The Harbormaster for the Port Authority testified before the committee about the wait list for these mooring permits and the intensity with which people on the wait list track their position. It is only when a person chooses

not to renew their permit that it passes to the next person on the list. The current wait time for a mooring permit in a sought after area can be several years. There was serious reservation expressed about how a private leasing program could further exacerbate tensions in an already competitive process. Permit holders could continue to pay the permit fee, and allow a certain person to use it, effectively leapfrogging the others on the wait list. There were also liability concerns around the state permitting the use of private moorings by those other than the owner. The majority of the committee felt most comfortable with the current system that does allow the Port Authority to issue permits for seasonal use when a permit holder notifies them that their mooring will be unused. **Vote 19-2.**

HB 1440, relative to surface water quality standards for perfluorinated chemicals. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Jim Creighton for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill is an act relative to quality standards for certain perfluorinated chemicals in the surface waters of the state. The bill addresses the safety of surface water due to contamination from perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanoic sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). The committee is determined to ensure that the surface waters in New Hampshire remain clean and safe. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) has been conducting a detailed analysis of surface waters and testified that the chemicals highlighted in this bill will be addressed in their report. DES will take appropriate action when the analysis is complete. The committee believes that our interim study recommendation will allow this bill to be informed by the results of the DES analysis. **Vote 20-0.**

HB 1498-FN, establishing a safety program for off highway recreational vehicles and snowmobiles. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Timothy Egan for Resources, Recreation and Development. The committee agreed unanimously to recommend this bill for interim Study in establishing a safety program for off highway recreational vehicles and snowmobiles, as the importance of safety for riders and impact on the industry needs to be refined in the bill's execution of safety program activations. The committee was unanimous in support of a need for action of a bill on safety training of all riders, to safeguard our younger riders, training new riders enjoying NH tourism options and allowing Fish and Game (F&G) conservation officers more assistance in educating the riding community. However, the time line for execution, the grand fathering of age groups and the promotion of the program by rental agents needs refinement by the community and local business audiences that participate. Additionally, the training license fee impact on consumers and operational costs for F&G needs further review. Thus the F&G Director will hold a series of meetings with the community, industry and the committee to determine what is needed for further legislation. With the unanimous approval of a commission to study OHRV's passing this same committee, the vote of interim study made sense, as safety issues could be better studied and dealt with in that commission. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1532, permitting a dam to be constructed on Big Pea Porridge Pond. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Suzanne Smith for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill would authorize the Pea Porridge Pond Association (PPPA) to construct a dam at the natural outlet of Big Pea Porridge Pond in the town of Madison. During testimony the committee learned that there are 3 Pea Porridge Ponds, only one of which falls under state jurisdiction. Also, due to communication or lack thereof, the Pea PPPA may not necessarily reflect the views of the majority of shore land property owners on Big Pea Porridge Pond or the two ponds downstream. The committee heard conflicting opinions both as to the scope of the problem and how to best address the problems facing the protection of the areas' shore land, wetlands, nesting loons and other wildlife. Department of Environmental Services Dam Bureau expressed a desire to work with the property owners. The committee believes that a better solution to this legislation is for property owners to work together with the department, the Loon Preservation Committee and other experts to best protect the area's interests. The bill's sponsor has requested the committee deem the bill inexpedient to legislate, to allow the property owners time to better organize and reach a consensus as to how to proceed. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1554-FN, relative to online payment of fees and fines relating to the operation of off highway recreational vehicles and snowmobiles. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Timothy Egan for Resources, Recreation and Development. The committee was unanimous in support of the need for a bill on allowing in-state residents and visitors from out of state enjoying our tourism options, to easily renew their OHRV and snowmobile using internet commerce. This enabling legislation allows Fish and Game to work to ensure all OHRV and snowmobiles are registered; better track the registration data - thus better manage staffing demands; support the demand on local dealers who face registration pressures; and work with the OHRV and snowmobile riding clubs to make sure all riders are operating safe machines. The amendment clarifies that the bill will only affect registration fees and not the payment of fines. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 1555-FN, repealing the permit required for fires at campgrounds. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Jim Creighton for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill is relative to repealing the permit required for camp fires. The bill does attempt to remove regulations and government oversight. The testi-

mony of state and municipal fire and safety officials highlighted fire safety concerns that could be increased with the passage of HB 1555. While many on the committee agree with reducing government oversight, the recommendation is to study this issue further to ensure the safety of our citizens. **Vote 20-1.**

HB 1602-FN, relative to perfluorinated chemicals in drinking water. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**
Rep. Chuck Grassie for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill would require testing for PFAS in drinking water of childcare facilities and schools. The bill required the testing and reporting of results of PFAS testing for all licensed childcare facilities and schools in NH. The Department of Environmental Services has agreed to do much of the work addressed in this bill as part of their on-going testing program. The committee would like to study this issue further and follow-up with the DES program. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1620, identifying part of the Merrimack River as a protected river. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**
Rep. Suzanne Gottling for Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill proposes to identify a portion of the Merrimack River as a protected river through legislation. Many stakeholders pointed out that although they support the protection of the river, they believe the usual process calling for input from all stakeholders along the portion nominated for protection is vital. Interim study allows time for more input from the stakeholders, particularly the three towns that border this segment Perhaps there are improvements in the Rivers Management and Protection Program that would allow swifter designation of protection. **Vote 21-0.**

TRANSPORTATION

HB 1000, prohibiting motorcycle profiling. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Gregory Hill for Transportation. The committee unanimously agrees that discrimination of the individual is abhorrent. Making judgments and decisions based on another's appearance, and that includes clothing, cannot be a reason to hinder or restrict passage or engage in profiling. The legislation itself is only two sentences. It couldn't be more simple and clear and the committee recognized that fact. **Vote 14-0.**

HB 1160, relative to obedience to signals at railroad crossings. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**
Rep. Laura Telerski for Transportation. This bill modifies the circumstances when vehicles must stop at railroad crossings to include when workers are working on the track with maintenance of way on-track equipment. 34 other states have similar laws to protect rail workers and the bill has industry support. The amendment simply clarifies it applies only to track maintenance equipment. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1239-FN, relative to habitual offender hearings. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Travis O'Hara for Transportation. This bill allows the Department of Safety to send notice of a show cause hearing by first class mail. The committee amendment restores citizens' rights to a proper notice by making the default order served by hand. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1341, relative to the definition of conviction in motor vehicle laws. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Gregory Hill for Transportation. The definition of conviction under RSA 259:14 needed to be updated to eliminate section one dealing with a forfeiture of bail or collateral deposited to secure an appearance in court. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1426-FN, eliminating the vehicle inspection mandate for non-commercial vehicles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Ted Gorski for Transportation. This bill would eliminate the vehicle inspection mandate for non-commercial vehicles. The committee felt that yearly vehicle inspections are important to road safety. These inspections help discover issues such as frame rust and other issues that can impact vehicle safety. In addition, the impact to state and local revenues is a minor factor as well. **Vote 18-0.**

HB 1445-FN, relative to the identification of police vehicles. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Travis O'Hara for Transportation. While this bill is well intended and recognized by the Department of Safety, the current language raised many questions and could lead to confusion in the statute. The committee agreed that this subject would be best served by further study. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1447, prohibiting state agencies from using face recognition technology. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**
Rep. Larry Gagne for Transportation. This bill, if passed, would prohibit the state from using technology that would be helpful in solving crimes. It is, however a well intentioned bill and should be studied to ensure that facial recognition should be used for appropriate purposes and in acceptable ways. However, blanket bans strip away the opportunity for policy makers to both limit potential uses of concern and preserve the benefits it provides. The committee did not approve this bill in its current form because of these issues. We felt that Interim Study will address these concerns. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1474, relative to annual vehicle inspections. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Steven Smith for Transportation. This bill provides that New Hampshire vehicles be inspected only once per year and divorces the month of inspection from a driver's birth month, if they so choose. This bill provides flexibility to people who want to separate the financial costs of registration and needed repairs. If

your birthday is in December, and you want to have your inspection come due in June, you can do that under this bill. If you like having your registration and inspection come due in the same month, you can do that as well. Inspection stickers are simply good for one year from the date of issuance. **Vote 18-1.**

HB 1492-FN, relative to decal plates for the New Hampshire Council on the Arts. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Travis O'Hara for Transportation. The purpose of chapter 261-b multi-use decal plates is to allow non-profit organizations under 26 U.S.C. section 501c(3), 501c(8) and 501c(10) to display their logos on a decal plate. The only exception is a separate paragraph which allows firefighters to do the same. The committee agreed that allowing any or all state agencies is not and should not be the intent of this chapter. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1534, authorizing the use of side exhausts for antique vehicles. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Thomas Walsh for Transportation. This bill simply allows the use of side exhausts for antique vehicles. The committee amendment clarifies where the discharge point is, depending on if the vehicle has two doors or four doors. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1562, clarifying the prohibition on using an electronic or telecommunications device while driving. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Larry Gagne for Transportation. This bill is a housekeeping bill that updates the RSA to reflect the fact that hands free communications are allowed (for example, bluetooth technology). The RSA that covers this is RSA 265:79-c. RSA 265:105-a, relative to prohibited text messages and device usage while operating a motor vehicle is repealed. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2023. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1570-FN, relative to reducing vehicle registration fees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Aidan Ankarberg for Transportation. The New Hampshire Municipal Association testified to a loss of municipal revenue of between 82.5 to 90 million dollars yearly, statewide. This is too onerous a burden to place upon our towns and cities and as a result, the committee opposes this bill. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1573, relative to prohibitions on drivers' licenses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Travis O'Hara for Transportation. The committee recognizes the intent of this bill and discovered that the Senate is working on a bill that deals with this subject in a more comprehensive manner. Therefore, it was agreed that this bill is not needed at this time. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1643-FN, modifying the new resident drivers' license transfer requirement. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Karel Crawford for Transportation. Due to many unanswered questions, the committee voted to Interim Study this bill. These questions included whether new fines should be assessed on people without notification, conflicts with provisions of the interstate compact and the Driver Privacy Act. **Vote 19-0.**

SB 307, (New Title) relative to the issuance of safe boater education certificates and commercial driving instruction. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Dennis Thompson for Transportation. The first part of the bill states that the commissioner can approve a proctored examination for a boater education course rather than administer it by an authorized person. Thus, allowing for an online version. The second part, with respect to the commercial driver's examination and examiners certification, will allow New Hampshire to come into line with 49 V.S.C. section 31136 by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. **Vote 19-0.**

WAYS AND MEANS

HB 1430-FN-A, repealing the tax on rentals of motor vehicles under the meals and rooms tax. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Patrick Abrami for Ways and Means. This bill repeals the application of the meals and rooms tax to the rentals of motor vehicles and the distribution of the revenues from the motor vehicles rental portion of this tax to the education trust fund. This tax went into effect in the early 2000's as part of the school funding agreement that was a result of the *Claremont* decision by the NH Supreme Court. Research shows that most states have a car rentals tax. Many also allow local taxes and fees. Our 8.5% tax is reasonable given there are no hidden local taxes or fees. This tax represents about \$6.6 million a year in revenues to the state. The committee heard testimony that much of our car rentals are by New Hampshire residents and not just by tourists and business travelers at our airports. However, it was determined that much of the cost of the local rentals was borne by insurance companies at car body repair shops and dealers for loaner cars, so in reality a very minimal amount of this tax is being paid by NH residents. The Ways and Means Committee heard at a recent economic briefing that our bond rating agencies like to see a diversity of taxes to buffer against the ups and downs in certain segments of our economy. With all of this, the committee felt it was the wrong time to even consider an elimination of this tax, given the unknowns of the impact of the Payroll Protection Program (PPP) refunds, the limits put on the credit carry forward provision refunds, and the phasing out of the federal stimulus money on future revenues. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1450-FN, including agricultural resources under the land and community heritage investment program. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Richard Ames for Ways and Means. This bill seeks to make explicit the commitment of the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) to the conservation of farming across New Hampshire by adding the word “agriculture” to the LCHIP statement of purpose, by adding to the LCHIP board a member representing agricultural interests, and by providing additional revenue to LCHIP by transfer of one quarter of a percent of annual proceeds from the real estate transfer tax. Testimony on the bill affirmed both that agricultural conservation already is deemed in practice a central component of the LCHIP mission and that the LCHIP board over the years has done invaluable work within the limits of its available resources for farm conservation under its natural resources rubric. Given this history, and the affirmation at the committee’s public hearing of LCHIP’s continuing commitment to agricultural interests, the committee believes the proposed change in mission statement and board membership and additional tax transfer are unnecessary at this time. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1494, relative to a property tax exemption concerning certain communications services leases. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. John Janigian for Ways and Means. This bill exempts certain leases or other agreements for governmental property used for communications services purposes from requirements for the lessee to pay property taxes. While a case was made that money saved by the communication service provider could be used to expand broadband service, there is nothing in the bill that guarantees this would happen. In fact, the money saved by the communication service provider could be used for whatever the company deemed appropriate. In addition, the property tax not collected as a result of this bill would most likely mean that other taxpayers would have to pay more to make up the difference. Furthermore, this bill most likely will be found unconstitutional by the courts. Exempting a group of taxpayers who use governmental property, while others must pay the tax, almost certainly would be found unconstitutional. **Vote 19-0.**

HB 1509-FN, relative to termination of the FRM victims’ contribution recovery fund. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Patrick Abrami for Ways and Means. This bill calls for the repeal of the FRM Victims’ Contribution Fund. This fund was approved and funded with \$5 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, and \$5 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. This fund and appropriation were approved by the legislature and signed into law by the governor in recognition in part of the failure of the state to properly regulate and oversee the Financial Resources Mortgage (FRM) operation, which led to its failure and significant harm to investors. The \$10 million in no way covers all the losses incurred by the investors in this company. From testimony in the committee, it is clear that the wheels are very much in motion to begin distribution of these appropriated funds to those who were wronged by FRM. For the legislature to reverse itself at this late date would only compound the harm done to these investors. The committee voted unanimously not to repeal the FRM victims’ contribution recovery fund. To do so at this late date would be an embarrassment to the state. Some committee members, although initially opposed to establishing this fund without judicially assigned state culpability, also believed that the process set in motion by last year’s legislature is too far advanced to stop without damage to the state’s reputation. **Vote 19-0.**

THURSDAY, MARCH 10 REGULAR CALENDAR

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

HB 1011-FN, relative to the penalty for criminal mischief. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. David Welch for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Currently under the existing statute an actor can vandalize, deface, destroy, tamper with or alter public property either in a temporary or permanent manner. The actor shall make restitution but there is no way to incentivize the payment because it is only a violation. Raising the penalty to a class A misdemeanor likely would make paying restitution preferable to spending a year incarcerated. If payment is made for the damage caused by the actor there would be no taxpayer expenditure. Public property is paid for by tax dollars and when there is damage the repairs are also paid by tax dollars. Some time ago there was significant damage done at the front plaza of the state house and while the vandals were identified there was no restitution. The language was crafted by the New Hampshire Attorney General and an actor may be charged with a class A offense or a lesser offense depending upon the damage resulting. **Vote 16-5.**

HB 1031, prohibiting law enforcement from encrypting public frequencies. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. David Welch for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Currently, according to testimony, only one jurisdiction encrypts all of its public safety communications. Some law enforcement organizations may encrypt during emergencies to both protect the first responders as well as the general public. News organizations may have difficulty reporting in a timely manner but overall, there seems to be no great problem identified. In these troublesome times with all the technology available we seem to want everything to be instantaneous. There have been instances in other states where criminal activity was successful because of the devices used to monitor police communications. We should be grateful that New Hampshire is the safest state and should not jeopardize our unique position by not practicing common sense. After some debate the majority of the committee decided that the bill was not worthy of passage. **Vote 12-5.**

HB 1151-FN, prohibiting the display of a deadly weapon at a parade, funeral procession, picket line, march, rally, vigil, or demonstration. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. John Burt for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill creates a new offense of openly carrying or displaying a firearm on “public property”, such as sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, parks, walkways, recreational fields, greenways, plazas, rights-of-way, and other public grounds. The bill does not strictly limit the gun free zones to these places. New Hampshire residents and visitors have been carrying arms at these places for hundreds of years without incident. Even though violation level offenses carry no risk of incarceration, a person can still be arrested for such an offense and thusly have their name and reputation smeared. Furthermore, subsequent offenses can be charged as misdemeanors. Openly carrying arms, without any other conduct, has never been a crime in New Hampshire and the majority of the committee felt that citizens have an excellent track record of responsibility and this bill is not needed. The bill even has a provision that could cause traveling gun owners to unwittingly violate the law because it includes moving vehicles. A majority of the committee felt that this bill creates a crime for conduct that has been inarguably legal in New Hampshire for centuries and recommends that this bill be voted Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 13-6.** Rep. David Meuse for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill would ban the open carrying of firearms within 100 feet of a protest, rally, march, or any First Amendment related activity that takes place upon any public property. It seeks to reduce the risk of armed intimidation of people expressing their First Amendment rights. It also seeks to reduce the risk of the sort of tragedies that have resulted from the volatile mix of protests and firearms since 2020 in places like Kenosha, Portland, Austin, and Las Vegas. According to the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project—a group that collects data and reports on political violence worldwide—over 610 armed demonstrations have been reported around the country since the start of 2020. The group also reports that armed demonstrations are 6.5 times more likely to turn violent or destructive than demonstrations where no firearms are present. These risks are unacceptable and preventable. While the bill safeguards First Amendment rights, it also protects the Second Amendment right to self-defense. While prohibiting open carry at protests, this bill has a specific exemption for concealed carry. This means that participants and spectators who feel the need to bring a weapon to a demonstration, rally or protest, will be free to do so as long as the weapon is concealed from the sight of others. This is a bill that protects First and Second Amendment right, and will save lives.

HB 1175, relative to recording interactions with public officials. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Amy Bradley for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority disagrees with the bill’s proposal that would allow a person to record interactions with public officials during the performance of their duties. The bill does not cover the problematic issue of children being captured by video while a person is recording an interaction with a teacher, who is considered a public official. Parents have the choice to opt

their child or children out of being recorded or filmed, and this bill would negate parental choice. In addition, “the performance of public duties” is not clearly defined and for many could pose situations that would invite people to record interactions of their personal life. The majority agrees that public officials should be held accountable, but this bill poses more issues than it would solve. **Vote 17-3.** Rep. Chris True for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill simply states that the people have the right to record a public official in public, while they are performing their duties. Many US Circuit Courts of Appeals have ruled that the people have a first amendment right to record what public officials do while they are performing their jobs. The US Supreme Court has refused to overturn any of these first amendment decisions by the Circuit Courts. The minority of the committee believes that public officials, while performing their public duties, must be accountable to the NH Constitution and be accountable to the people so that our government is open, accessible, and accountable to the people.

HB 1281-FN, relative to access to firearms confiscated from a person who is subject to a protective order. **REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Terry Roy for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The majority agreed with a request from the sponsor to send this bill to interim study. The bill subject has merit but the sponsor felt that, after speaking with domestic violence advocates, closer review and research is required to ensure that there are no negative repercussions on the victims of domestic violence. **Vote 12-8.**

HB 1282, relative to the records of communication common carriers. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Terry Roy for the **Majority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. The committee heard from the bill’s sponsor and members of law enforcement. This bill was passed by the House last year but was found inexpedient to legislate in the other body. The majority of the committee found that like last year, the bill is good for New Hampshire citizens. After recently passing a New Hampshire Constitutional Amendment guaranteeing the privacy of the citizenry, it is all the more important that the people feel that their private communications be free of government viewing without having first established probable cause to believe that a crime has, is or is about to, be committed. Accordingly, the majority, once again recommends the bill Ought to Pass. **Vote 14-6.** Rep. David Meuse for the **Minority** of Criminal Justice and Public Safety. While the minority agrees that protecting individual privacy from state intrusion is an obligation under the New Hampshire Constitution, this bill does little to add additional protections. Currently, during child pornography investigations, the Attorney General’s office uses an administrative warrant process to quickly request carriers to confirm whether traffic from a suspect IP address involves a customer. If there is a match, a search warrant, which typically takes more time to get, is sought from the court for additional information that can include the customer’s identity, websites visited, and other data. This bill, with exceptions for emergency situations or cases where informed consent is provided by the device owner or with the informed consent of a parent, would require a search warrant for all customer information sought from a carrier. This has the potential to result in unintended consequences. Eliminating the ability to quickly confirm matches has the potential to slow down child pornography investigations. Moreover, providing the most sensitive customer information as a first step has the potential to compromise sensitive personal information. In the end, this bill is a bill that won’t do much and is not necessary.

HB 1483, relative to the use of physical force by a law enforcement officer. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Daryl Abbas for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. This bill seeks to prohibit police officers from using deadly force when effecting an arrest when the suspect “has committed or is committing a felony involving the use of force or violence, is using a deadly weapon in attempting to escape, or otherwise indicates that he is likely to seriously endanger human life or inflict serious bodily injury unless apprehended without delay” when the officer “had made reasonable efforts to advise the person that he is a law enforcement officer attempting to effect an arrest and has reasonable grounds to believe that the person is aware of these facts.” RSA 627:5 II (b)(1)-(2). The sponsor of the bill provided testimony that he believed that a police officer should not be allowed to shoot an unarmed fleeing suspect who has stolen clothes from a department store. If that example were to play out as described by the bill’s sponsor, a police officer’s use of deadly force to effect the arrest would be an illegal use of force under New Hampshire’s existing law. With the exception of the sponsor of the bill, no member of the public testified in support of this bill. Therefore, the committee was not presented with any legitimate reason to prohibit a police officer from using deadly force to protect the lives of other police officers and the public when arresting a suspect who is using a deadly weapon to escape or create a danger to human life. It should be noted that RSA 627:5 was previously amended after the Supreme Court of the United States’ decision in the *Tennessee v. Garner* case that established the fleeing felon doctrine. For such reason, the majority of the committee supported the motion of inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 14-3.**

HB 1636, relative to prohibitions on carrying a loaded firearm on an OHRV or snowmobile. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. John Burt for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Due to a clerical oversight, when Constitutional Carry (SB 12) was enacted in 2017, the General Court neglected to repeal the prohibition on carrying a loaded pistol

or revolver on a snowmobile or ATV unless the gun carrier first obtained a pistol/revolver license pursuant to R.S.A. 159:6. This bill is a simple clerical bill to make the firearms carry law for snowmobiles and ATVs consistent with the laws for cars, motorcycles, pickup trucks and boats. New Hampshire will soon observe the fifth anniversary of being a constitutional carry state which means that a license or permit is not required to carry a gun. When SB 12 became law many naysayers were predicting crime and violence. But none of that happened. New Hampshire is one of the safest places to live, work and raise a family. People who ride snowmobiles and ATVs should be able to freely exercise their Second Amendment rights just like those who drive cars, pickup trucks or boats and the majority of the committee recommends that this bill be voted Ought to Pass. **Vote 11-6.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 1037, relative to the governor's duties during a state of emergency. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.** Rep. Dianne Schuett for Executive Departments and Administration. This bill sought to remove two superfluous phrases from the statute regulating the reporting of expenditures by the governor during a state of emergency. The majority of the Executive Departments and Administration (ED&A) committee also felt the second phrase "in order to ensure transparency" should be left intact. As amended, the bill restores that language. **Vote 11-6.**

HB 1059, clarifying limits on licensure by operation of law. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Jeffrey Goley for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. Under current law someone would submit an application for a licensed profession in NH to the appropriate board for review to make sure all of the criteria is met prior to a license being issued. However, when that application is submitted boards have a certain amount of time to review the application and approve or deny it. If the board is unable to meet in that set time frame an applicant is automatically granted a license even if they do not meet all the qualifications needed for licensure. This bill allows the Executive Director of the Office of Professional Licensure to review and make sure applicants meet the appropriate requirements prior to licensing should a board be unable to meet in that time frame. An example the committee heard was that if someone had filed an application to be an audiologist, the board had 60 days to review and approve or deny an application, after the 60 days if the board was unable to meet and act, a license was granted, even if all the criteria for licensing was not met. This bill would make sure all applications are reviewed and meet the appropriate requirements prior to a license being issued. **Vote 11-5.** Rep. Tony Lekas for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill would permit the Executive Director of the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) to make decisions on granting licenses in some circumstances if the relevant licensing board does not act within 60 days. This bill was requested by OPLC because some boards are unable to act, either because there are so many vacancies that the board cannot achieve the quorum required to meet, or because not enough board members will attend a meeting in order to achieve a quorum. While the minority understands the concern about licenses being granted automatically, the underlying problem is that New Hampshire requires licenses for too many professions. We require more professions to be licensed than many other states which do not appear to have significant public safety problems caused by that lack of licensure. If there are not enough people either willing to serve on a licensure board or who are willing to meet in order to perform their duties the requirement for a license for such professions should be repealed.

HB 1159, recognizing November 7 as Victims of Communism Memorial Day. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Matthew Santonastaso for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. All members of the committee expressed support for the memorializing the over 100 million victims of communism, and expressed support for education and awareness of the atrocities resulted from communism. We have no disagreement that communism is a terrible ideology and that should be remembered as such. The majority of the committee continues to maintain that proclamations of this kind are not best served through the legislature. By adding this day to the countless pages of statute memorializing different days for different reasons it becomes watered down and blurred in the background. We believe this does nothing for the remembrance of the victims of communism. Also by forcing the Governor to make a proclamation in law it disables him from being able to make a similar proclamation of his own free will. This puts the citizens of New Hampshire in the unfortunate position of speculating if their governor is making this proclamation because he supports the cause or only because he is compelled to by law. Additionally the federal government has already declared November 7th as a national day for the victims of communism therefore this would be a unnecessary redundancy. **Vote 12-5.** Rep. Michael Yakubovich for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. Karl Marx died in the 1880s. 40 years after that, the Bolsheviks finally seized absolute power and began experimenting with his ideas of communism on the conquered subjects. Within another half a century, again under the guise of Marx's teachings, various socialist/communist regimes around the world had successfully

exterminated one hundred million human beings. Today, various states & countries are starting to recognize November 7th (the day of the original Soviet Revolution) as the Victims of Communism Memorial Day. The murder of 100 million humans is an important event of the 20th century. Let us honor the victims by passing this legislation. Most importantly, let us speak about this often, as a terrible warning to future generations.

HB 1257-FN, requiring the retirement system to divest from investment in companies located in China. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Jaci Grote for the **Majority** of Executive Departments and Administration. This bill requires that the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) divest investments in companies that have direct holdings in active business operations located in China. If the bill was narrowly focused on those companies who are domiciled in China, NHRS would have to divest from companies which represent less than 1% of the portfolio. However, if the intent is to divest all companies with holdings in China, as written, it would be a significant impact. Therefore, the NHRS Board voted in opposition to this bill, as it would conflict with their fiduciary duty to NHRS beneficiaries. Although the committee sympathizes with the opposition to human rights violations in China, this is an ineffective tactic not harmful to those we wish to penalize. **Vote 12-3.** Rep. Sallie Fellows for the **Minority** of Executive Departments and Administration. The New Hampshire Retirement System's (NHRS) \$10 million investment in companies headquartered in China is less than one-tenth of one percent of its holdings. There is no need to invest in companies that help their government spy on citizens, steal American intellectual property, and send minorities to forced labor internment camps. Presidents Trump and Biden have both called China's treatment of Muslim Uyghurs "genocide." Both Presidents banned the federal civil and military retiree system (TSP) from investing in China. Furthermore, Senators Rubio and Shaheen have cosponsored a bill to make the ban permanent. Passing this bill is a statement that profit doesn't always supersede ethical principles; the two can coexist. This bill also has no impact on US companies that are buying goods and services from China.

HB 1460-FN, relative to minimum age requirements for certain occupational licenses. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. William Marsh for Executive Departments and Administration. People are issued occupational licenses in order to work in licensed professions. So long as the child labor law remains in statute it would be illegal for licensees under age 18 to practice their profession, and likely they would not be able to maintain either their skills or their licenses. There are also technical issues with the bill. It would be impossible to perform criminal background checks on under 18 year old licensees in professions that require criminal background checks for licensure. There is also the specific concern that repealing the age requirement for temporary massage therapists and for massage therapists would be likely to encourage human trafficking of minors and prostitution. For these various reasons, the committee recommends this bill inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 12-6.**

FISH AND GAME AND MARINE RESOURCES

HB 1299, relative to the process for the importation of wildlife and creating an appeal process for denials of permits. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: REFER FOR INTERIM STUDY.**

Rep. Timothy Lang for the **Majority** of Fish and Game and Marine Resources. This bill does a few things: (1) requires Fish and Game (F&G) respond to a NH citizen within a timely manner (60 days); (2) requires permit requests that F&G does not respond to within 60 days to be deemed approved; and (3) creates an appeal process for NH citizens from the Executive Director's decision to the F&G Commission. The majority feels the buck should not stop at a single unelected state bureaucrat. NH citizens deserve better. The bill was amended based on the public hearing testimony which recommended a change to the 'timely manner' duration from 30 days to 60 days. This change would give F&G wildlife biologists enough time to conduct wildlife research aimed at protecting our indigenous wildlife, and to give F&G 541-A rule making authority to implement this bill. **Vote 13-6.** Rep. Cathryn Harvey for the **Minority** of Fish and Game and Marine Resources. This bill establishes a process for applying for a permit to import wildlife, and establishes an appeal process for such permits. The original bill allows for 30 days for the appeal process, but as amended the bill allows for a 60 day appeal process duration. The minority feels that an appeal process is necessary, but this bill has many unanswered questions. Are Fish and Game Commissioners the correct body to hear appeals? Should a denial of a permit be allowed to be overturned by commissioners who may not have the same information as the director? Is 60 days enough time for the appeal process to take place? In addition, current law does not list hearing appeals as a duty of a commissioner. Because these questions were brought forth in the hearing and no answers were determined, the minority believes this bill should go to interim study.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

HB 1126, permitting minors over the age of 16 to obtain a vaccination without parental consent. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Bill King for the **Majority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill is intended to give those 16 years of age or older the ability to make their own choice to be vaccinated or not. This

would establish a dangerous precedent, since it takes away the requirement to keep the parents involved in the decision. Although there are some families missing the close relationship needed to have a healthy conversation between child and parent, if this bill is put into law, it would apply to all children 16 or older, both in those families with good family communication as well as with those that do not have this. The truth is, while there are some between the age of 16 and 18 years of age who could maturely consider the adverse effects and repercussions of being vaccinated, there are many more who could not, but rather require a parent or legal guardian to guide them through this decision. This bill, as it is written, should not become law and needs to be voted inexpedient to legislate. **Vote 12-7.** Rep. Joe Schapiro for the **Minority** of Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill would allow adolescents 16 years and older to acquire vaccines without the consent of a parent or guardian. There are many parents who, beset by substance use or other significant life issues, are rendered unable to provide adequate structure, support, and guidance to their children. This causes some teens to end up homeless and subsisting on their own. New Hampshire statutes already provide for consent to diagnosis and treatment of STDs and substance use at 14 and 12 years of age respectively. Many states set the age of consent for mental health services at 16 or younger. Currently, minors while able to consent to sexual activity prior to 18 years of age, are not able to acquire the Human Papillomavirus Vaccines (HPV), putting them at greater risk of cervical cancer. The minority conceded that there are legitimate arguments to be made on both sides of this issue, but in the end, decided that allowing 16 year olds to consent to vaccines was a measured and reasonable change in statute that would increase access to essential preventive healthcare for a vulnerable population.

JUDICIARY

CACR 21, relating to registers of probate. Providing that eliminating the office of register of probate and all references to such office. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Kurt Wuelper for the **Majority** of Judiciary. This CACR eliminates the office of register of probate and all references to such office in our constitution. Several years ago, we reformed our court system and established electronic filings for probate court matters. This made the register of probate office redundant. The clerk of the Probate Court took over the duties of the register by default. Ever since, the registers, while still being elected each term, have had no or few duties and, basically, just get a check for getting elected. This CACR updates the constitution to remove what is, and has been for years, a nominal office. **Vote 20-1.** Rep. Timothy Horrigan for the **Minority** of Judiciary. The register of probate is a constitutional office which has been elected by the people of each county since 1877, and has existed in one form or another throughout our state's history. The minority believes that now is not the time to eliminate this office. Most of the functions of this office were eliminated in 2009 when the probate courts became part of the new circuit court system along with the family courts and the local district courts. But, the registers still have some duties and obligations. In particular, the registers are still responsible for preserving historically significant probate documents. The judicial branch has not been very supportive of the registers since 2009, but they have been able to work with the Department of State, especially the state archivist. In 2017, HB 259 was passed into law, clarifying and slightly expanding the registers' duties. That bill has been just one of several legislative initiatives aimed toward strengthening the powers of the registers of probate. The minority feels that this elective office still has value and recommends this CACR be deemed Inexpedient to Legislate. The minority also points out that the title "eliminating the office of register of probate and all references to such office" is misleading. This CACR only addresses Part 2nd Article 71 of the state constitution, and fails to eliminate a second reference to the office of register of probate in Part 2nd Article 81. And, also, a CACR cannot eliminate the many references to the office in statute.

HB 1013, relative to meetings of the New Hampshire rare disease advisory council. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for Judiciary. This bill would make a special provision for one public body, the Rare Disease Advisory Council, to meet remotely. The majority of the committee believes that RSA 91-A should apply uniformly with respect to all public bodies. Having a variety of differing laws for public bodies would be chaotic and make it difficult to maintain transparency. **Vote 15-6.**

HB 1021, prohibiting regulation of religious land use based on the religious nature of the assembly or speech taking place on the land or in the structure. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Kurt Wuelper for Judiciary. This bill prohibits regulation of land use based on the religious nature of an assembly or of speech taking place on the land or in the structure. The committee heard about people being denied the right to have prayer meetings in their home and churches subjected to additional restrictions compared to other similar uses. The bill simply requires that land use laws be applied equally to all permitted uses without additional requirements based on religious use of the property. The majority sees this as a non-discrimination provision and recommends passage. **Vote 14-7.**

HB 1205, allowing the department of environmental services to have access to enhanced 911 information. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Edward Gordon for Judiciary. Currently, the Department of Safety, through the enhanced 911 system, does detailed mapping of locations throughout New Hampshire. That mapping information is not available to the public and is not subject to the right-to-know Law. However, it is used for law enforcement purposes and has been released on a limited basis to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) to locate wells. This bill would allow DES to have access to the mapping information for creating and maintaining an inventory of drinking water sampling sites and to comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. If this information were not made available to the Department of Environmental Services, it would have to purchase it from a private company at substantial cost to the state. The amendment strictly limits the use of the information received by DES to the application they requested and indicates that the information is still exempt from RSA 91-A. **Vote 17-4.**

HB 1216-FN, repealing the housing appeals board. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marjorie Smith for Judiciary. In 2019, after being thoroughly vetted by the legislature, the housing appeals board was created and charged with ensuring that local ordinances are fairly applied. Since then, the board has heard 15 cases and carefully reached decisions, some of which favored the towns and some of which favored the developers. Well-qualified individuals are making appropriate decisions sooner than would have happened before the creation of the board. The Judiciary Committee overwhelmingly opposes the elimination of the housing appeals board. In these 2 ½ years, the board has accomplished exactly what the legislature hoped it would. It has heard cases in a timely way and reached fair and balanced decisions. **Vote 17-3.**

HB 1254, relative to the housing appeals board. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Marjorie Smith for Judiciary. A broad group of stakeholders helped draft the legislation creating the housing appeals board in 2019. There now is evidence that the board has accomplished the anticipated goals. The appeals process has sped up and the decisions made by the well-qualified, well-vetted board members have demonstrated a careful, thorough evaluation of each case. The Judiciary Committee's bipartisan vote reflects confidence in the work of the board. **Vote 18-3.**

HB 1260, making immunization status a protected class. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Charlotte DiLorenzo for Judiciary. This bill seeks to make immunization status a protected class under the state's anti-discrimination law. If passed, this proposed law would apply to all immunizations, even the CDC-recommended disease prevention protocols and laws requiring children to be vaccinated before attending public schools. In the case of the COVID-19 vaccination, immunization is a choice. There are no laws; federal, state, or local, that mandate COVID-19 vaccinations. Because there are no laws that mandate COVID-19 vaccination, it would be an error to add immunization status protection to RSA 354-A, New Hampshire's Human Rights Statute. If passed, this bill would allow citizens to file a civil rights complaint with the New Hampshire Human Rights Commission if they were denied a job, housing, or entrance to public accommodation sectors, based on immunization status. If this bill were to pass, this could place a heavy burden on the staff of the Human Rights Commission and prevent work on serious matters from being adjudicated. **Vote 17-4.**

HB 1408, requiring the refund of residential tenancy application fees. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Sylvia for Judiciary. This bill would require landlords to refund all but the landlord's actual out-of-pocket costs for specific services such as credit reports or criminal background checks, to people whose application has been denied. The purpose of application fees is to offset actual costs, time and effort incurred processing the application. Although the bill would allow landlords to retain the actual out-of-pocket costs incurred for credit reports or criminal background checks, it does not allow for other real costs, time spent calling landlord references or confirming employment, or for office overhead. Applicants agree up front to a non-refundable application fee to cover costs and processing. Application fees are often nearly the same or even less than the costs paid by the landlord, so the tenant would be refunded very little or nothing. **Vote 14-7.**

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

CACR 14, relating to unions. Providing that all workers have the right to join a union. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Leonard Turcotte for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. This proposed constitutional amendment would require that "All workers within this state shall have the right to join a union." The proposed change is both confusing and unnecessary. First, the wording would imply that anyone would have the right to join any union of their choosing, regardless of where they work or even if they worked where there is no union representation. Could one demand entry into the Teamsters while working at Dunkin' Donuts? Secondly, the sponsor was unable to provide a single example of an individual being denied entry into a union at a company where a union currently represents employees. **Vote 12-9.** Rep. Donald Bouchard for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. The minority of the committee support

the amendment to the constitution because it will ensure forever the collective rights that are necessary to protect our individual rights. The right to form a collective union will facilitate and enhance the ability of its members to exercise core civil liberties, such as the rights of association, speech, and petition. This amendment will protect the rights of individuals forever to come together over issues of mutual interest, protect the right to communicate forever with co-workers about workplace concerns that come from the statutory right to join a union and bargain collectively, as well as defend the rights of union members forever, including by lobbying the government to defend the interests of the overall membership and by going to court to protect the rights of individual members. The minority of the committee feels that this amendment will end anti-union crusades in New Hampshire forever.

HB 1385, prohibiting the use of credit history in employment decisions. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Brian Seaworth for the **Majority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. While the majority agrees that credit scores are sometimes used inappropriately by employers, we cannot support this legislation. The bill would prohibit the use of credit scores in employment decisions but, then, it must also begin making exceptions. While the committee is made aware of some specific organizations requiring exemptions, this points to the fact that such a prohibition impacts each business differently. The bill's language provides a broad exception for "bona fide" purposes that is bound to pit regulators against employers in defining a business's needs. The legislature should not be involved in the details of hiring decisions. The free market will reward those businesses who use rational criteria to select their employees. **Vote 17-4.** Rep. Michael Cahill for the **Minority** of Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services. Although not an indication of dishonesty, a poor credit report is a barrier to employment. Even if you're not living paycheck to paycheck, unexpected events such as medical expenses, divorce or loss of employment lead to falling behind on bills. You're applying for a job, not a loan. You have the required skills but your credit report puts it out of reach; your creditors will have to wait and the hole gets deeper. This bill had several exceptions where a credit report was a reasonable requirement. An amendment was offered to address contract security workers at Nextera's Seabrook Station not specifically covered under federal law. Perhaps the use of credit checks should be the exception rather than the rule.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT

HB 1275, relative to municipal representation on regional planning commissions. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Richard Tripp for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This bill would change the overall representation of municipalities on the regional planning commissions by increasing the number of commissioners from larger cities. It was determined that this action would be detrimental to the smaller towns as it would increase the already substantial influence of the larger cities at the expense of the smaller towns. **Vote 16-3.** Rep. Eric Gallager for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. With the bipartisan Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 signed into law and in the anticipation of over one billion dollars in federal funds becoming available to New Hampshire in the coming decade, this bill attempts to bring more equitable representation to the cities of Manchester and Nashua on their respective regional planning commissions.

HB 1387, enabling municipalities to adopt a property tax homestead exemption. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Richard Lascelles for the **Majority** of Municipal and County Government. This is a well-meaning bill that attempts to partially solve the hurdle that young people have when they attempt to purchase housing. The homestead provisions to the bill would assist in this regard but the application of the bill would be cumbersome and convoluted. In addition, the impact of removing such large portions of the taxable property from the roles would have a deleterious impact on all other taxpayers. **Vote 17-2.**

Rep. Ivy Vann for the **Minority** of Municipal and County Government. The minority believes that the current property tax structure is inequitable and regressive. A homestead exemption based on Area Median Income, which is available on the NH Housing Financial Authority (NHHFA) website, is one way to increase the possibility of homeownership for younger, working families by providing local property tax relief. Local property taxes are a barrier to homeownership because even when a mortgage is affordable, the addition of high property taxes makes home ownership unattainable. This was enabling legislation, which means that any jurisdiction which adopted it would have the opportunity to assess all the available property tax exemptions and decide which ones should be eliminated in favor of a homestead exemption. Homestead exemptions are used successfully in many other states, and shift property tax burdens from those earning less than the median income to those earning more, and from properties occupied by persons living and working in a community to properties which are not primary residences.

PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

HB 1456-FN, relative to the Hampton marine memorial. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Michael Edgar for Public Works and Highways. The Hampton Marine Memorial is located in Hampton on Ocean Boulevard and is to recognize those service members that were buried or lost at sea. The bill expands the period of eligibility to include Operation Desert Shield, Desert Storm and the Wars on Terrorism following September 11, 2001 attack. **Vote 17-0.**

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

CACR 32, relating to independence. Providing that the state peaceably declares independence from the United States and proceeds as a sovereign nation. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Brodie Deshaies for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. The committee believes that articles of secession are unconstitutional and therefore impossible. Any attempt to make NH a “sovereign nation” only purports to do so and is illegitimate. There are three main arguments the committee heard. The first legal argument why states cannot secede from the union is reasonably understandable. The federal government is the only legitimate power to admit new states and to extend or retract territorial boundaries. Nowhere in our US Constitution does it allow the federal government to permit any state to secede, let alone for any state to decide unilaterally. Our constitution is quite clear on this issue (see Article IV, Section 3). No state constitution has ever suggested that states hold this power. Constitutions are implicit contracts with citizens that grant governments specific powers. With no power explicitly given allowing secession, no state can ever secede. Another argument lies in the US Supreme Court decision in *Texas v. White* (1869). In the court’s majority decision, Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase explained that the union began during the Revolutionary War amongst the colonies. In his decision, he writes, the union “was confirmed and strengthened... and received definite form and character and sanction from the Articles of Confederation... [and] by these, the Union was solemnly declared to be perpetual.” Justice Chase then says that our current Constitution was “ordained to form a more perfect Union,” which intended to convey the idea of indissoluble unity....” Therefore, the union can never be dissolved. Our form of government and Constitution is predicated upon the union’s “perpetual” existence. Without this “perpetual” existence, we would be throwing away the union, and with it, the US Constitution. The last constitutional argument is straightforward. It does not matter whether or not secession is illegal. What matters is that the union beat the confederacy in the Civil War. Once this happened, the illegality of unilateral secession was *de facto* established. The legality of secession was answered at Appomattox Court House in 1865 with the conclusion of the Civil War. It also means the repercussions for attempting unilateral secession have been decided too. The federal government must punish states and their leaders who try to secede. Which leads us to another question: can state leaders introduce or vote for articles of secession? This is currently an open question and the NH General Court would decide the answer. Nonetheless, the 14th Amendment, Article III, is very clear: “No State Legislator shall engage in rebellion against the Constitution.” Voting for NH’s proposed articles of secession could be determined by the NH House as rebellion against the US Constitution. It could be casting a vote to rebel against the union and, therefore, the same constitution establishing the perpetual union. Voting for CACR32 is not voting for a referendum. NH does not have referendum. We encourage fellow lawmakers to reject NH’s articles of secession and protect constitutional government. Not only is CACR32 logistically and constitutionally impossible, but NH’s articles of secession may require enforcement of the 14th Amendment by the NH House. **Vote 21-0.**

HB 1411-FN, relative to transparency of federal agency operations within New Hampshire. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. William Foster for State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs. This bill as amended increases transparency of federal agencies and provides a centralized location to the public for this information. This will help to reduce speculation and misconceptions and improve state and federal relations. **Vote 14-7.**

TRANSPORTATION

HB 1138-FN-A, exempting the display of a front license plate on certain vehicles. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Laura Telerski for Transportation. This bill would allow for the payment for a waiver of the requirement to display a front license plate if it would alter a vehicle’s “historic character, its collectability, or devalue the vehicle.” The bipartisan majority found this bill to have problems with undefined terms and ambiguous language, in addition to public safety concerns, and a fiscal impact. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) stated the ambiguity of the bill makes it unenforceable due to the subjective nature of what is valuable and collectible. Law enforcement testified to the importance of front plates to identify vehicles for Amber Alerts, BOLO alerts, and identification by pedestrians, witnesses, and security cameras. Supporters of the bill have claimed that this is a cost saving bill, but the DMV would still need to produce plates in sets of two, a DMV

staffer would be needed to handle waiver requests, and the state would see an indeterminable amount of lost revenue since there are still tollbooths that are equipped with front plate cameras only. For these reasons we recommend this bill be found Inexpedient to Legislate. **Vote 15-3.**

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

FRIDAY, MARCH 4

MOUNT WASHINGTON COMMISSION (RSA 227-B:3), Mt. Washington Cog Railway Maintenance Shop 3168 Base Station Rd. Mount Washington, NH 03589

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 210-211, LOB

9:00 a.m. Joint Economic Briefing. The committee will hear from various experts on conditions impacting the state and national economies.

MONDAY, MARCH 7

COMMISSION TO STUDY OFFSHORE WIND AND PORT DEVELOPMENT (RSA 374-F:10), Room 100 Walker Building 21 South Fruit Street Concord, NH

4:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

EDUCATION, Room 205-207, LOB

9:00 a.m. Subcommittee Work Session on **HB 1530**, relative to bachelor's degrees offered by the community college system of New Hampshire.

10:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1530**, relative to bachelor's degrees offered by the community college system of New Hampshire.
Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 302-304, LOB

9:30 a.m. Subcommittee Work Session on **HB 1560**, relative to nonresident licensure by the board of barbering, cosmetology, and esthetics; **HB 1171-FN**, exempting certain niche beauty services from licensure requirements.

11:00 a.m. **HB 1256-FN**, relative to positions within the department of military affairs and veterans services.

11:50 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1395**, relative to administrative rulemaking authority; **HB 1192**, relative to the board of acupuncture licensing and relative to the qualifications for licensure as an acupuncturist; **HB 1079-FN**, relative to part-time employment of a retirement system retiree; **HB 1330**, relative to the board of registration of medical technicians; **HB 1135**, requiring a performance audit of the department of education, education freedom account program; **HB 1173**, proclaiming August 9 as Indigenous People's Day; **HB 1182**, relative to the board of court reporters; **HB 1274**, establishing a committee to study the solid waste practices of state agencies; **HB 1312**, relative to water pollution and waste disposal rulemaking; **HB 1344**, relative to the authority of real estate brokers; **HB 1510**, establishing a committee to study the hiring processes used by state agencies; **HB 1018**, relative to the board of medical imaging and radiation therapy; **HB 1061-FN**, relative to the midwifery council; **HB 1171-FN**, exempting certain niche beauty services from licensure requirements; **HB 1560**, relative to nonresident licensure by the board of barbering, cosmetology, and esthetics.

Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 210-211, LOB

9:30 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1022**, permitting pharmacists to dispense the drug ivermectin by means of a standing order; **HB 1035**, relative to exemptions from school vaccine mandates; **HB 1044**, relative to policies required for health facilities and special health care service licenses; **HB 1045**, requiring legislative oversight over the emergency powers of the department of health and human services; **HB 1077**, repealing the prohibition on conversion therapy for minors; **HB 1080**, relative to the rights of conscience for medical professionals; **HB 1139**, relative to ophthalmic prescription requirements; **HB 1180**, relative to state recognition of biological sex; **HB 1244-L**, relative to parental consent to medical and dental treatments of children in schools; **HB 1271**, limiting the authority of the department of health and human services to mandate vaccinations; and relative to quarantine costs; **HB 1290-FN**, establishing a task force on precision medicine and biomarker testing; **HB 1345**, relative to the release of a teenager's medical

records to a parent or guardian; **HB 1347**, relative to licensing requirements for health care facilities that operate on a membership-based business model; **HB 1379**, relative to the department of health and human services' rulemaking authority regarding immunization requirements; **HB 1409**, relative to the age at which a minor may receive mental health treatment without parental consent; **HB 1439**, relative to hospital visitation policies; **HB 1455**, relative to state enforcement of federal vaccination mandates; **HB 1481**, repealing the statute relative to medical freedom in immunizations; **HB 1487**, relative to the procedure for withdrawal from the vaccine registry; **HB 1488**, expanding the prohibition against discrimination based on an individual's election not to participate in the state vaccine registry; **HB 1495-FN**, relative to vaccine mandates for government contractors; **HB 1606**, making the state vaccine registry an opt-in program; **HB 1633-FN**, relative to requiring COVID-19 vaccination for school attendance. Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.

NEW HAMPSHIRE OPIOID ABATEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 126-A:85), DHHS Brown Auditorium 129 Pleasant St. Concord NH 03301

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting. Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://nhdhhs.zoom.us/j/3031726939?pwd=ckNDcmNyM1VJdGtsWWlDd2hCWlJlVU09>
 Meeting ID: 303 172 6939 Passcode: 810055

NEW HAMPSHIRE RECOVERY MONUMENT COMMISSION (RSA 4:9-p), Room 101, LOB

11:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Room 306-308, LOB

10:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1459-FN**, relative to recycling solar panels.
 11:00 a.m. Utility vegetation management by the Arborist at Eversource

TUESDAY, MARCH 8

EDUCATION, Room 205-207, LOB

9:00 a.m. Continued Executive Session if necessary.

FINANCE, Room 210-211, LOB

10:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1300-FN-A**, making an appropriation to fund the Ash Landfill in Newport; **HB 1054**, requiring an audit of the state police; **HB 103-FN**, establishing a dental benefit under the state Medicaid program; **HB 1677-FN**, relative to the administration and settlement of claims of abuse at the youth development center and making an appropriation therefor.

1:00 p.m. Public hearing on non-germane amendment #2022-0875h, to **HB 1627-FN-A**, relative to establishing an education freedom account program administrator in the department of education and making an appropriation therefor. The amendment requires the department of education to seek participation in the Medicaid direct certification methodology for school meals program. Copies of the amendment are available in the Sergeant-at-Arms office, Room 318, State House.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 201-203, LOB

9:30 a.m. CONTINUED EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NECESSARY

NEW HAMPSHIRE DRUG OVERDOSE FATALITY REVIEW COMMISSION (RSA 126-BB:1), DHHS Brown Auditorium 129 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301

4:00 p.m. Regular meeting. Join Zoom Meeting <https://nh-dhhs.zoom>.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

ELECTION LAW, Room 306-308, LOB

9:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1473-FN**, authorizing a forensic audit of the November 3, 2020 election results in Merrimack county for president, governor, and United States senate races; **HB 1522-FN**, requiring the use of ballots with embedded security and relative to chain of custody of absentee ballots; **HB 1527-FN**, relative to the storage of total vote counts produced by electronic ballot counting devices; **HB 1470-FN**, requiring that all ballot counting devices show the number of overvotes for each race on the ballot; **HB 1457-FN**, relative to chain of custody of ballot boxes after an election; **HB 1163**, relative to over voted ballots; **HB 1064-FN**, requiring the use of hand-marked, durable paper ballots in elections; **HB 1247**, relative to folded ballots; **HB 1467-FN**, requiring partial audits of additional offices on ballots involved in recounts; **HB 1485-FN**, relative to direct recall elections; **HB 1203-FN**, relative to domicile residency, voter registration, and investigation of voter verification letters, and relative

to the terms “resident,” “inhabitant,” “residence,” and “residency.”; **HB 1542-FN**, relative to documentation required to prove a voter’s eligibility to vote; **HB 1543-FN**, relative to the voter registration process; **CACR 15**, relating to elections. Providing that the age to vote in the primary election be reduced to 17 for those who will be 18 by the general election; **HB 1567-FN**, relative to the removal of election officials from office; **HB 1383**, relative to electronic copies of absentee ballot lists.

FINANCE - DIVISION I, Room 212, LOB

- 11:00 a.m. Work Session on **HB 1235-FN**, relative to compensation paid to a crime victim.
 1:00 p.m. Work Session on **HB 1535-FN**, relative to cost of living adjustments for retirees in the state retirement system.
 2:00 p.m. Work Session on **HB 1417-FN-L**, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers.

HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS, Room 201-203, LOB

9:30 a.m. CONTINUED EXECUTIVE SESSION IF NECESSARY

LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 305-307, LOB

- 10:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1165**, repealing the Granite State paid family leave plan; **HB 1210**, relative to exemptions from vaccine mandates; **HB 1337**, relative to the duration of unemployment benefits; **HB 1352-FN**, relative to eligibility for workers’ compensation for an adverse reaction to a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination; **HB 1529-FN**, requiring prospective employees and volunteers of public libraries to obtain a background check prior to commencing employment or volunteer service.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 202-204, LOB

- 10:00 a.m. Executive Session on **HB 1097**, relative to taxation of income of New Hampshire residents when working remotely for an out of state employer; **HB 1221-FN**, relative to the rates of the business profits tax and the business enterprise tax; **HB 1524-FN**, establishing a national service alumni attraction and retention fund; **HB 1565-FN**, relative to the opioid abatement trust fund.
 11:30 a.m. **HB 1584-FN**, establishing a capital improvement grant program for the benefit of state fairs and agricultural fairs.
 Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11

ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a), Dept. of Revenue Administration Training Room 109 Pleasant Street Concord, NH

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMISSION ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF PERFLUORINATED CHEMICALS (RSA 126-A:79-a)

- 10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.
 This meeting will take place by remote conference. To listen in please follow the instructions below:
 Please register for HB 737 Commission Meeting on March 11, 2022 10:00 AM EST at:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/405406850851758605>
 After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. The following email address will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: Amy.E.Rousseau@DES.NH.gov. You may also call Amy Rousseau at 603-271-8801.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE INCIDENCE OF POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER IN FIRST RESPONDERS AND WHETHER SUCH DISORDER SHOULD BE COVERED UNDER WORKERS’ COMPENSATION (RSA 281-A:17-d), NH Fire Academy 98 Smokey Bear Blvd. Classroom 2 Concord, NH 03301

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY REQUIRING NEW HAMPSHIRE CHILDREN TO BE PLACED IN REAR FACING RESTRAINTS IN MOTOR VEHICLES (HB 251, Chapter 135:1, Laws of 2021), Dept. of Business & Economic Affairs Kinsman Conference Room 100 North Main St. Concord, NH

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

LONG-TERM SEACOAST COMMISSION ON DRINKING WATER (RSA 485-F:6)

- 2:00 p.m. Subcommittee Work Session meeting.
This work session will be conducted via WEBEX and can be accessed using the information below: [https://nhgov.webex.com/nhgov/j.php?MTID=ma58cb5ba6083df593f2724780e2604caMeeting number \(access code\): 2311 858 4451 Meeting password: water Join by phone +1-415-655-0001 US Toll](https://nhgov.webex.com/nhgov/j.php?MTID=ma58cb5ba6083df593f2724780e2604caMeeting%20number%20(access%20code)%3A2311%20858%204451%20Meeting%20password%3Awater%20Join%20by%20phone%20%2B1-415-655-0001%20US%20Toll)

OVERSIGHT COMMISSION ON CHILDREN'S SERVICES (RSA 21-V:10), Room 103, SH

- 8:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

STATE HEALTH ASSESSMENT AND STATE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-A:88), UNH Law School, 2 White St, Room 282, Concord, NH 03301

- 9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

MONDAY, MARCH 14**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (RSA 188-E:10-b), Room 100 Walker Building 21 South Fruit Street Concord, NH**

- 9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

COMMITTEE TO STUDY RAIL TRAIL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (HB 311, Chapter 94:2, Laws of 2021), NH DES 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH

- 9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

FINANCE - DIVISION II, Room 210-211, LOB

- 1:00 p.m. Division Work Session on **HB 1462-FN**, relative to motorcycle learner's permits.
1:30 p.m. Division Work Session on **HB 1682-FN-A**, establishing the law enforcement conduct review committee in the New Hampshire police standards and training council and making an appropriation therefor.
2:00 p.m. Division Work Session on **HB 1547-FN**, setting maximum contaminant levels for perfluorochemicals in the soil.

NH BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 137-K:2),

- 2:00 p.m. Regular meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84327646605?pwd=R0lwOWFVK0w2U2FkYTVybnhkdz09>
Meeting ID: 843 2764 6605 Passcode: 731679

NH COLLEGE TUITION SAVINGS PLAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (RSA 195-H:2), University System of NH 5 Chenell Drive, Suite 301 Concord, NH 03301

- 10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

TUESDAY, MARCH 15**FINANCE - DIVISION II, Room 210-211, LOB**

- 10:00 a.m. Work Session on **HB 1624-FN-A**, relative to students with disabilities participating in co-curricular activities and making an appropriation therefor.
10:30 a.m. Work Session on **HB 1627-FN-A**, establishing an education freedom account program administrator in the department of education and making an appropriation therefor.
11:00 a.m. Work Session on **HB 1661-FN-L**, relative to regional career technical education agreements.

FRIDAY, MARCH 18**ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (RSA 541-A:2), Room 306-308, LOB**

- 9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.
The streaming video of the JLCAR Meeting for March 18 2022 can be found by using the link listed below to the YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/Q0Y2Ft8YRMM>

FISCAL COMMITTEE (RSA 14:30-a), Room 210-211, LOB

- 10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.
The You Tube link to view the meeting livestream is: <https://youtu.be/7cNuOfO78kk>

LEGISLATIVE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 19-K:1), Back Room, Upham Walker House

- 10:00 a.m. Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE RARE DISEASE ADVISORY COUNCIL (RSA 126-A:79), DHHS Public Health Training Room 3rd Floor 29 Hazen Drive Concord, NH

3:00 p.m. Regular meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://nh-hhs.zoom.us/j/9833055343?pwd=TWNLyTh3SDBIUW9IaXBaNDRjQ3Yzdz09>
Meeting ID: 983 305 5343 Passcode: 780875

MONDAY, MARCH 21

COMMISSION ON HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE EDUCATION (RSA 193-E:2-f), Room 103, SH

4:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES (RSA 17-E:1), Room 100, SH

10:10 a.m. Regular meeting.

HOUSE LEGISLATIVE FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE (RSA 17-E), Room 100, SH

10:20 a.m. (Or immediately following the Joint Facilities meeting.) Regular meeting.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL (RSA 238-A:2), IPOC 110 Smokey Bear Blvd. Room 213 Concord, NH

9:00 a.m. Regular meeting.
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86360415500?pwd=ZVR6cDFVUFNBb2JETHpIWkhtZC8vZz09>
Meeting ID: 863 6041 5500 Passcode: 550137

MONDAY, MARCH 28

CAPITAL BUDGET OVERVIEW COMMITTEE (RSA 17-J:2), Room 201-203, LOB

10:15 a.m. Regular meeting. The YouTube link to view the meeting livestream is:
https://youtu.be/Z9B_wjrnUYE

COMMISSION TO STUDY TELEHEALTH SERVICES (RSA 329:1-f), Room 103, SH

1:00 p.m. Regular meeting.

LONG RANGE CAPITAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION COMMITTEE (RSA 17-M:1), Room 201-203, LOB

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting. The YouTube link to view the meeting livestream is:
<https://youtu.be/5Az4iNBhH08>

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD (RSA 126-BB:2), Brown Building Auditorium, Health and Human Services, 129 Pleasant St. Concord NH 03301

10:00 a.m. Regular meeting. Please see the Board website for additional information regarding this meeting:
<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/medicaid/nhpdab/index.htm>

REVISED FISCAL NOTES

The following bills have a revised fiscal note: HB103, HB347, HB591, HB611, HB620, HB624, HB1064, HB1228, HB1423, HB1456, HB1526, HB1587, HB1621, HB1628, HB1629, HB1632, HB1635, HB1677, HB1681, SB59, SB92, SB160, SB202, SB366.

Paul C. Smith, Clerk of the House

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Pursuant to RSA 24:23, there will be a public hearing for **Merrimack** County before the County Delegation at **10:00a.m. on Friday, March 11, 2022** in person/Zoom at the Old Courthouse, 2nd floor conference room, 163 North Main Street, Concord, New Hampshire. The purpose of the meeting is: 1. To consider funding for the Teamsters Union Collective Bargaining Agreement for Department of Corrections. 2. To consider 2022 budget appropriations for Merrimack County. 3. To consider Annual Adoption of Grant Resolution. 4. To consider any other business that may appropriately come before them. At this time, any member of the public may present oral or written testimony regarding the 2022 budget as proposed by the Merrimack County Executive Committee.

For more information, including how to attend the Zoom meeting, please visit the County website at www.merrimackcounty.net or contact Office Manager, Melinda Harrison at 796-6872.

Rep. Dianne Schuett, Chairman

Immediately following the Public Hearing to be held on **Friday, March 11, 2022** in person/Zoom **at 10:00a.m.**, there will be a meeting of the **Merrimack** County Delegation at the Old Courthouse, 2nd floor conference room, 163 North Main Street, Concord, New Hampshire. The purpose of the meeting is: 1. Approval of Funding for Teamsters Union Collective Bargaining Agreement for Department of Corrections. 2. Approval of the 2022 Merrimack County Proposed Budget. 3. Annual Adoption of Grant Resolution. 4. To consider any other business that may appropriately come before them.

For more information, including how to attend the Zoom meeting, please visit the County website at www.merrimackcounty.net or contact Office Manager, Melinda Harrison at 796-6872

Rep. Dianne Schuett, Chairman

MEMBERS' NOTICES

The following notices are published in the House Record as a courtesy to the member(s) requesting publication. These are not official public notices and will be limited to legislative policy or legislative social activities and political meetings or events. Publication should not be construed as support for either the events listed or the views espoused by the individual or organization sponsoring the event.

Come try free ice cream on March 10 in the cafeteria during break, and vote for your favorites! We'll have a mock ranked choice voting election on various ice cream flavors and a presentation on RCV. Join the bipartisan and independent cosponsors of the enabling bill HB1264, and get your questions about RCV answered, as well as watch a hand count of ice cream results!

Reps. Ellen Read, Kurt Wuelper, Matt Wilhelm, Tony Lekas

STATE HOUSE VISITATION SCHEDULE

As a convenience to the members of the NH General Court, the Visitor Center offers the following schedule of schools and other groups visiting the State House. These listings are to ensure all members be notified in a timely manner of visitors from their district. Our schedule books for the school year and subject to changes.

Please contact the Visitor Center concerning school tour booking information. Legislators planning to meet with students should notify the Visitor Center. Thank you for your continued participation with your School Visitation Program.

Virginia J. Drew, Director

Margaret Waterhouse, Public Information Administrator

DATE	TIME	GROUP	#/GRADE
March 7	10:00	Granite State Home Educators	40
March 9	10:00	River Woods Durham	16/Srs
March 11	10:00	Daughters of the American Revolution	50/HS
March 15	10:00	Broken Ground School – Concord	42/4
March 16	10:00	Broken Ground School – Concord	42/4
March 16	1:30	City Year/AmeriCorps volunteers	10/adults
March 17	11:45	Richards Elementary School – Newport	50/4
March 18	9:30	Dondero School – Portsmouth	55/4
March 21	10:00	Broken Ground School – Concord	20/4
March 21	1:00	Granite Home Educators	40
March 23	8:15	Concord Area Student Leadership	25/HS
March 24	9:30	South Merrimack Christian Academy	40/4
March 28	10:00	Lincoln Street School – Exeter	50/4
March 29	10:00	Lincoln Street School – Exeter	50/4
March 30	9:30	American Legion guests	10/adults
March 30	10:00	Lincoln Street School – Exeter	50/4

AMENDMENTS
(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

Amendment to HB 1003
(2022-0702h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs – c

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

1 New Paragraph; Patients' Bill of Rights; Vaccination Status. Amend RSA 151:21 by inserting after paragraph XXI the following new paragraph:

XXII. The patient shall not be denied admission, care, or services based solely on the patient's vaccination status.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

2022-0702h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that a patient shall not be denied admission, care, or services based solely on the patient's vaccination status.

Amendment to HB 1010-FN
(2022-0113h)

Proposed by the Committee on Election Law – c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Availability of Checklist and Voter Information; Municipal Voter History. Amend RSA 654:31, IV to read as follows:

IV. The secretary of state shall, upon request, provide to a political party, as defined in RSA 664:2, IV, or to a political committee, as defined in RSA 664:2, III, a list of the name, domicile address, mailing address, town or city, voter history, and party affiliation, if any, of every registered voter in the state. The secretary of state shall, upon request, provide to a candidate for county, state, or federal office a list of the name, domicile address, mailing address, town or city, voter history, and party affiliation, if any, of every registered voter in the state or in the candidate's district. In this section, "voter history" means whether the person voted and, for primary elections, in which party's primary the person voted, in each state election *and municipal election* for the preceding 2 years. The secretary of state shall charge a fee of \$25 plus \$0.50 per thousand names or portion thereof in excess of 2,500 plus shipping charges for each copy of the list provided under this section. In addition, the secretary of state shall charge and collect on behalf of and remit to the supervisors of the checklist of each city and town the amount that such supervisors would have charged had the public checklist of their city or town been purchased from them. The secretary of state may provide lists as prescribed in this section on paper, computer disk, computer tape, electronic transfer, or any other form.

Amendment to HB 1037
(2022-0071h)

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Homeland Security; Governor Duty. Amend RSA 21-P:43-a to read as follows:

21-P:43-a Governor Duty. The governor shall provide a list of all expenditures pursuant to this subdivision under a state of emergency to the executive council [~~for informational purposes only~~] within 30 days of the expenditure, in order to ensure transparency.

Amendment to HB 1066
(2022-0505h)

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development – c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacterial blooms in New Hampshire.

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

1 Report Required; Commissioner of Environmental Services. The commissioner of the department of environmental services shall prepare a plan to prevent the increase of, and eventually control, cyanobacterial blooms in New Hampshire's lakes and other waters. Such plan shall be supported by scientific data and shall include measurable milestones. The commissioner shall determine the organizational structure, foci, personnel, and resources needed to execute the plan. The commissioner shall also coordinate with appropriate stakeholders as may be required to execute the plan. Any budgetary request necessary to execute the plan shall be submitted as part of the department's total funding request for the fiscal years ending June 30,

2024 and June 30, 2025. The plan shall be submitted in writing to the governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the president of the senate no later than November 1, 2023.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

2022-0505h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the commissioner of the department of environmental services to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacterial blooms in New Hampshire.

Amendment to HB 1099

(2022-0491h)

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs - c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to medical freedom in immunizations.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Communicable Disease; Medical Freedom in Immunizations. Amend RSA 141-C:1-a, I to read as follows:

I. Every person has the natural, essential, and inherent right to bodily integrity, free from any threat or compulsion by government to accept an immunization. Accordingly, no person may be compelled to receive an immunization for COVID-19 in order to secure, receive, or access any public facility, any public benefit, or any public service from the state of New Hampshire, *the New Hampshire department of health and human services*, or any political subdivision [thereof] *of the state of New Hampshire*, including but not limited to counties, cities, towns, precincts, water districts, school districts, school administrative units, or quasi-public entities.

2022-0491h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies that no person shall be required to receive a Covid-19 vaccination in order receive benefits or services from the department of health and human services.

Amendment to HB 1109

(2022-0775h)

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development - c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to approval for off highway recreational vehicles use on class IV, class V, and class VI roads.

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Operation of All OHRVs; OHRV Operation on Sidewalks, Class IV, Class V, and Class VI Roads. Amend RSA 215-A:6, IX to read as follows:

IX. *(a)* Pursuant to RSA 215-A:15, and following a duly noticed public hearing advertised at least 14 days in advance in a public location in the city or town and notification to abutters by verified mail pursuant to RSA 21:53, city or town councils and boards of selectmen may authorize the use of sidewalks [and class IV, class V or class VI highways and bridges, or portions thereof,] for use by OHRVs. The operation of OHRVs may also be allowed on sidewalks adjacent to class I, II, III, or III-a highways pursuant to RSA 236:56, II(e). [~~Operators of OHRVs using said roads, or portions thereof, shall keep to the extreme right and shall yield to all conventional motor vehicle traffic.~~] The bureau, or its designee, shall so post such highways where authorized. Following a duly noticed public hearing, except in the case of an emergency closure, such city or town authorities may change the allowable usage of [a class IV, class V, or class VI highway] *sidewalks* by OHRVs by giving notification to the supervisor of the bureau and removing any signs that no longer apply. The petitioner shall bear the expense of verified mail notification to abutters of property for which OHRV use is sought under this paragraph.

(b) By a majority vote of the legislative body of a city or town at any legal meeting after notice and hearing, and following notification to abutters by verified mail pursuant to RSA 21:53, a city or town may authorize the use of class IV, class V, and class VI highways for use by OHRVs. Operators of OHRVs using said roads, or portions thereof, shall keep to the extreme right and shall yield to all conventional motor vehicle traffic. The bureau, or its designee, shall so post such highways where authorized. Except in the case of an emergency closure, by a vote of the legislative body of a city or town at any legal meeting after notice and hearing, and following notification to abutters by verified mail pursuant to RSA 21:53, such city or town may rescind a previous authorization and may change the allowable usage of a class IV, class V, or class VI highway by OHRVs by giving notification to the supervisor of the bureau and removing any signs that no longer apply. The petitioner shall bear the expense of verified mail notification to abutters of property for which OHRV use is sought under this paragraph.

2022-0775h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill changes the approval procedure for OHRV use of class IV, class V, and class VI roads.

**Amendment to HB 1160
(2022-0493h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - c

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

1 Rules of the Road; Obedience to Signal Indicating Approach of Train. Amend RSA 265:48 to read as follows:

265:48 Obedience to Signal Indicating Approach of Train ***or Other Maintenance of Way On-Track Equipment.***

I. Whenever any person driving a vehicle approaches a railroad grade crossing under any of the circumstances stated in this section, the driver of such vehicle shall stop within 50 feet but not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of such railroad, and shall not proceed until he can do so safely. The foregoing requirements shall apply when:

(a) A clearly visible electric or mechanical signal device gives warning of the immediate approach of a railroad train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment;***

(b) A crossing gate is lowered or a flagman gives or continues to give a signal of the approach or passage of a railroad train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment;***

(c) A railroad train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment*** approaching within approximately 1500 feet of the way crossing emits a signal audible from such distance and such railroad train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment,*** by reason of its speed or nearness to such crossing, is an immediate hazard;

(d) An approaching railroad train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment*** is plainly visible and is in hazardous proximity to such crossing.

II. No person shall drive any vehicle through, around or under any crossing or barrier at a railroad crossing while such gate or barrier is closed or is being opened or closed.

2 Rules of the Road; Certain Vehicles Must Stop at All Railroad Grade Crossings. Amend RSA 265:50, I to read as follows:

I. The driver of any vehicle carrying passengers for hire, or of any school bus carrying any school child, or of any vehicle carrying explosive substances, before crossing at grade any track or tracks of a railroad, shall stop such vehicle within 50 feet but not less than 15 feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment,*** and for signals indicating the approach of a train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment,*** except as hereinafter provided, and shall not proceed until he ***or she*** can do so safely. After stopping as required herein and upon proceeding when it is safe to do so the driver of any said vehicle shall cross only in such gear of the vehicle that there will be no necessity for changing gears while traversing such crossing and the driver shall not shift gears while crossing the track or tracks.

3 Rules of the Road; Moving Heavy Equipment at Railroad Grade Crossing. Amend RSA 265:51, III-IV to read as follows:

III. Before making any such crossing the person driving or moving any such vehicle or equipment shall first stop the same not less than 15 feet nor more than 50 feet from the nearest rail of such railroad and while so stopped shall listen and look in both directions along such track for any approaching train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment*** and for signals indicating the approach of a train ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment,*** and shall not proceed until the crossing can be made safely.

IV. No such crossing shall be made when warning is given by automatic signal or crossing gates or a flagman or otherwise of the immediate approach of a railroad train or car ***or other maintenance of way on-track equipment.*** If a flagman is provided by the railroad, movement over the crossing shall be under his ***or her*** direction.

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

**Amendment to HB 1174
(2022-0649h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Election Law - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Provisions for the Purity of Elections; Challengers. Amend RSA 666 by inserting after section 5 the following new section:

666:5-a Challengers; Where Positioned. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, appointed challengers shall be permitted to observe the hand counting of ballots for the tabulation of votes from a distance of not more than 6 feet, and shall be permitted to maintain a line of sight on any electronic ballot counting device.

2022-0649h
AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill permits election challengers to observe the hand counting of ballots and tabulation of votes from a distance of not more than 6 feet and to maintain a line of sight on any electronic ballot counting device.

**Amendment to HB 1185
(2022-0583h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development – c

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

1 Statement of Findings and Purpose. The general court hereby finds that:

I. Per fluorinated chemicals (PFAS) are widely used, long lasting chemicals, components of which break down very slowly over time.

II. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, many PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals all over the world and are present at low levels in a variety of food products and in the environment.

III. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to some PFAS in the environment may be linked to harmful health effects in humans and animals.

IV. The state of New Hampshire has regulated the amount of PFAS that may be present in drinking water.

V. Identification of the source of PFAS is critical to prevent continued exposure by New Hampshire's citizens.

VI. It is unknown how many and which industrial and commercial processes use PFAS.

VII. Enhancing the knowledge of where PFAS enters the water cycle will enable New Hampshire to prevent future and continued exposure.

VIII. It is necessary to statutorily clarify that wastewater treatment plants have the authority to require producers of discharge to their plants to sample for PFAS.

2 New Section; Wastewater Treatment Plant; PFAS Testing. Amend RSA 485-A by inserting after section 5-d the following new section:

485-A:5-e Wastewater Treatment Plant; Per fluorinated Chemical (PFAS) Testing.

I. A wastewater treatment plant may require any industrial or commercial facilities or septic haulers contributing discharge to its plant to test such discharge to determine the level of PFAS in the discharge. A wastewater treatment plant that makes this requirement shall notify any industrial or commercial facilities or septic haulers contributing discharge to its plant in writing of such testing requirements including:

(a) Identification of potential sources of PFAS using safety data sheets or other specification sheets.

(b) Sample test result of the discharge measuring levels of PFAS in the discharge provided to the wastewater treatment plant.

(c) Submission of an annual report to the municipality in which the wastewater treatment plant containing a list of the test results.

II. An industrial or commercial facility or septic hauler that receives a notification from a wastewater treatment plant under paragraph I shall have 90 days from the receipt of such notification to comply with the testing requirements.

III. A wastewater treatment plant may refuse discharge from an industrial or commercial facility or septic hauler that has reported a level of PFAS in its discharge above the level the wastewater treatment plant determines to be acceptable.

IV. In accordance with RSA 485-A:5-b, each municipality shall enter into an agreement to assure access to an approved septage facility for the disposal of domestic septage. Such agreements shall ensure that domestic septage has an outlet approved by the municipality. Municipalities may enter into agreements with other municipalities to assure access to an approved septage facility if such municipalities do not have a wastewater treatment facility.

V. Wastewater treatment facilities may collect samples for PFAS analysis from septage loads originating from residential sources. Non-residential septage loads from commercial or industrial sources shall have prior approval by the municipality before discharging to a wastewater treatment facility.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**Amendment to HB 1188
(2022-0582h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development – c

Amend RSA 215-A:44-a, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. Membership and Compensation.

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

(1) Four members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives:

(A) Two of whom shall be members of the house resources, recreation and development committee, one of whom shall be from the majority party and one of whom shall be from the minority party.

(B) One of whom shall be a member from the house transportation committee.

(C) One of whom shall be a member from Coos county.

(2) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(3) One representative of the fish and game department, appointed by the executive director of the fish and game department.

(4) The chief supervisor of the bureau of trails of the department of natural and cultural resources, or designee.

(5) One representative of municipal police departments, appointed by the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police.

(6) One representative of the department of transportation, appointed by the commissioner.

(7) One representative of the New Hampshire state police, appointed by the director of the state police.

(8) One representative of the New Hampshire Off Highway Vehicle Association, appointed by the association.

(9) One representative of the New Hampshire Municipal Association, appointed by the association.

(10) One member representing landowners, appointed jointly by the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association and New Hampshire Farm Bureau.

(11) One representative of the New Hampshire Auto Dealers Association, appointed by the association.

(12) One member representing the New Hampshire Society for the Protection of Forests, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the Nature Conservancy, appointed jointly by those organizations.

(13) One representative of the New Hampshire Rail Trail Coalition, appointed by the coalition.

(14) Two members of the public, one of whom shall be appointed by the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions, and one of whom shall be appointed by the North Country Council.

Amendment to HB 1195

(2022-0455h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary – c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to public comment periods at school board or school administrative unit public meetings.

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

1 New Paragraph; Access to Governmental Records and Meetings; Meeting Open to the Public; Public Comment. Amend RSA 91-A:2 by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

IV. All meetings of a school board or school administrative unit board open to the public under this chapter shall include an opportunity for public comment after the meeting has been opened and prior to the board addressing any substantive agenda issues. Individual public comment time may be limited but not to less than 3 minutes per person. The meeting can proceed into substantive issues once all public participants have been given the opportunity to speak, provided however that the total time to hear all members of the public may be limited, but not to less than one hour. The content of the public comment shall not be limited except for purposes of maintaining decorum. Nothing shall prevent a school board or school administrative unit board from having additional public comment at other times during the meeting.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2022-0455h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires that all open meetings of school boards or school administrative unit boards have a period designated for public comment.

Amendment to HB 1205

(2022-0404h)

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Sheriffs, Constables, and Police Officers; Enhanced 911 System; Information Not Subject to Right-to-Know Law. Amend RSA 106-H:14 to read as follows:

106-H:14 Information Not Subject to Right-to-Know Law.

I. Any information or records compiled under this chapter shall not be considered a public record for the purposes of RSA 91-A regardless of the use of such information under paragraph II.

II. Notwithstanding [~~any provision of law to the contrary~~] **paragraph I**, the [~~bureau~~] **division** shall [~~only~~] make information or records compiled under this chapter available **only** as follows:

[H.](a) On a case-by-case basis to a law enforcement agency that requires the information or records for investigative purposes; and

[H.](b) To the department of environmental services solely for the [purpose] *purposes* of estimating the location of wells subject to RSA 482-B **and for creating and maintaining an inventory of drinking water sampling sites and the materials used for water system service lines needed to comply with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The department of environmental services shall not be required to release such data under RSA 91-A.**

2022-0404h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill allows the department of environmental services to have access to certain enhanced 911 information relative to addresses across the state.

**Amendment to HB 1239-FN
(2022-0508h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation - c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Habitual Offender Certification. Amend RSA 262:19, I to read as follows:

I. When the director determines that any person is an habitual offender within the meaning of RSA 259:39, [he] **the director** shall issue an order requiring that person to appear for a hearing to show cause why he **or she** should not be barred from driving a motor vehicle upon the ways of this state. The show cause [order] **hearing** shall incorporate a certified transcript or abstract of the person's conviction record, which shall be prima facie evidence that the person named therein was duly convicted, by the court in which such conviction or holding was made, of each offense shown by such transcript or abstract. If any person shall deny any of the facts stated in the transcript or abstract, he **or she** shall have the burden of proving that such is untrue. For the purposes of this chapter, a plea of nolo contendere shown on such transcript or abstract shall not make the same inadmissible. **The department shall send notice for the show cause hearing by first class mail to the address of record with the division of motor vehicles. A person who fails to appear for the show cause hearing shall be defaulted and certified as an habitual offender, effective 30 days from the date of the hearing. The default order shall be served in-hand.**

**Amendment to HB 1265
(2022-0619h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law - c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to the waiver of rules in family court proceedings and requiring the establishment of a family division rule waiver database.

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

1 New Section; Judicial Branch Family Division; Judicial Waiver of Family Division Rules. Amend RSA 490-D by inserting after section 3 the following new section:

490-D:3-a Judicial Waiver of Family Division Rules.

I. If a judge or referee waives a rule of the circuit court family division, pursuant to family court rule 1.2, the judge or referee shall enter into the court record the rule waived by number and title, the reason for which the rule was waived, and who the waiver favored by identifying if it was the plaintiff or the defendant.

II.(a) Not more than 60 days after the effective date of this section, the chief justice of the circuit court, or designee, shall develop and implement a family division rule waiver database. At a minimum, the database shall contain the family division in which the rule was waived, the judge or referee who waived the rule, the rule that was waived by name and title, and the cause for which the rule was waived and for whom the rule change favored.

(b) The clerk of the family division in which the rule was waived, or his or her designee, shall enter the rule waiver information required in subparagraph (a) into the database not more than 30 days after the hearing in which the rule was waived. The clerk shall be responsible for ensuring the information is entered into the database accurately.

III. The circuit court family division shall have access to the database of rule waivers. The speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, and the chairpersons, vice-chairpersons, and clerks of the house and senate judiciary committees, the house children and family law committee, and the office of legislative services shall also have access to the database.

IV. The chief justice of the circuit court, or designee, shall submit a quarterly report on the status of the family division rule waiver database to the speaker of the house of representatives, senate president, and the chairpersons of the house and senate judiciary committees and the chairperson of the house committee on children and family law.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

2022-0619h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the circuit court family division to establish a family division rule waiver database containing all rule waivers granted in the family division courts.

**Amendment to HB 1299
(2022-0150h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Fish and Game and Marine Resources- r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 General Provisions as to Fish and Game; Import, Possession or Release of Wildlife. Amend RSA 207:14, I to read as follows:

I. *(a) [No person shall import, possess, sell, exhibit, or release any live marine species or wildlife, or the eggs or progeny thereof, without first obtaining a permit from the executive director except as permitted under title XVIII. The executive director shall have the authority to determine the time period and any other conditions governing the issuance of such permit. The executive director may refuse to issue a permit if he determines that such issuance may pose significant disease, genetic, ecological, environmental, health, safety, or welfare risks to persons, marine species or wildlife] A person may import, possess, sell, exhibit, or release any live marine species or wildlife, or the eggs or progeny thereof, after first obtaining a permit from the executive director, except as otherwise provided in Title XVIII. The permit shall be granted within 60 days of the request, unless the executive director determines that issuing a permit may pose a direct and significant disease, genetic, ecological, environmental, health, safety, or welfare risks to persons, marine species, or wildlife.*

(b) Any person who is denied a permit under subparagraph (a) may appeal the decision in writing to the fish and game commission within 60 days of the denial.

(c) The executive director shall adopt rules pursuant to RSA 541-A to implement the provisions of this paragraph.

**Amendment to HB 1325
(2022-0230h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Judiciary - c

Amend the bill by inserting after section 1 the following and renumbering the original section 2 to read as 3:

2 Guardians and Conservators; Termination of Guardianship; Release of Records to Ward. Amend RSA 464-A:40, II(c) to read as follows:

(c) The guardian shall provide medical, financial, or other records to the ward upon the ward's request so that the ward may prepare and pursue a guardianship termination motion or request. The guardian may file a petition with the court for an order permitting the guardian to withhold such records based on a finding that the records would not be relevant to the termination of the guardianship or that their release to the ward would be harmful to the interests of the ward. The guardian shall bear the burden of establishing to the court that the records should not be released to the ward.

(d) Unless the motion is without merit, the court shall hold a hearing similar to that provided for in RSA 464-A:8 and RSA 464-A:9 at which the guardian shall be required to prove that the grounds for appointment of a guardian provided in RSA 464-A:9 continue to exist.

2022-0230h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that a person appointed a guardian shall retain the right to access and consent to the release of his or her confidential records unless the terms of the appointment provide otherwise. The bill also provides that the guardian shall provide records to the ward so that the ward may pursue a termination of guardianship request unless the court determines release of such records would be harmful to the ward.

**Amendment to HB 1333-FN
(2022-0813h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety - c

Amend RSA 265-A:18, V(b) as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(b) Any person convicted of a violation of RSA 265-A:2, I(a) and the conviction is based upon a complaint which alleges a prior conviction under RSA 265-A:2, I or RSA 265-A:3, or RSA 630:3, II, or under a reasonably equivalent offense in an out-of-state jurisdiction, occurring within 10 years of the date of the present offense, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

**Amendment to HB 1346
(2022-0625h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law – c

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

1 New Section; Commission to Study the New Hampshire Family Court System. Amend RSA 490-D by inserting after section 15 the following new section:

490-D:16 Commission Established. There is established a commission to study the New Hampshire family court system.

I. The members of the commission shall be as follows:

(a) Two members of the house children and family law committee, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) Two members of the house judiciary committee, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(c) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

(d) One family violence prevention specialist employed by a member agency of the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, appointed by the governor.

(e) One employee of the division for children, youth and families who is experienced in family court, appointed by the commissioner of the department of health and human services.

(f) One member of the New Hampshire Bar Association with significant experience in family law and courts within the judicial branch family division, appointed by the governor.

(g) An attorney who is currently or has been a member of the Domestic Violence Emergency (DOVE) Project, appointed by the governor.

II. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.

III. The commission shall study parenting cases and decisions by courts within the judicial branch family division. The study shall include consideration of the following:

(a) Frequency of equally shared custody decisions.

(b) Effect of delay enforcement of the financial support of children has on the children meant to be supported by the order.

(c) The effect of the court's rules being waived on the number of appeals.

(d) The effect of the court's process on people who suffered trauma.

(e) The ability for children to be permitted to speak to the judge in chambers or in court.

(f) The effect of the court's rules being waived on the opposing party.

(g) Guardian ad litem (GAL) training and responsibility, including:

(1) If favoritism toward one parent by a GAL impacted the best interest of the child;

(2) How much time children spend with each parent during the evaluation of a GAL; and

(3) A minimum of how much time GALs should spend with the children.

(h) Anything which the commission finds the court does which may negatively impact outcomes for families.

IV. The commission shall hold monthly publicly noticed hearings to provide an opportunity for members of the public to testify.

V. The commission may solicit information and testimony from any individual or entity the commission deems relevant to its study.

VI. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the first-named house member with the second-named house member as an alternate. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Five members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

VII. The commission shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, the executive council, and the state library on or before November 1, 2023, and November 1, 2024.

2 Repeal. RSA 490-D:16, relative to the commission to study the New Hampshire family court system, is repealed.

3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2024.

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

**Amendment to HB 1354
(2022-0487h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration – c

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Real Estate Practice; Recognition for Licensure. RSA 331-A:11-a is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

331-A:11-a Recognition for Licensure. If an applicant holds an active real estate license in good standing, issued by passing the national and state examinations in accordance with the laws of another jurisdiction, that applicant may apply for a New Hampshire license with the same equivalent status as currently licensed in the qualifying jurisdiction by first passing the New Hampshire portion of the licensing examination, provided that other requirements of the commission have been met. If an applicant holds an active real estate license in good standing issued by passing only the state examination in accordance with the laws of another jurisdiction, that applicant may apply for a New Hampshire license with the same equivalent status as currently licensed in the qualifying jurisdiction by first passing the New Hampshire and national portions of the licensing examination, provided that other requirements of the commission have been met. This section shall apply to salesperson and broker applicants only when such applicants are applying for a New Hampshire license with same equivalent status as currently licensed in the qualifying jurisdiction.

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

**Amendment to HB 1385
(2022-0209h)**

Proposed by the Minority of the Committee on Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Labor; Protective Legislation; Use of Credit History Prohibited. Amend RSA 275 by inserting after section 37-d the following new section:

275:37-e Use of Credit History Prohibited. No employer, labor organization or employment agency, or independent contractor doing business in this state shall use or request information in the credit history of a job applicant, employee, or independent contractor in connection with or as a criterion for employment decisions related to hiring, termination, promotion, demotion, discipline, compensation, or the terms, conditions, or privileges of employment in this state, unless the employer, labor organization, employment agency, or independent contractor complies with the notice and consent requirements of the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. section 1681 et seq. and one or more of the following apply:

I. The employer or independent contractor is required by state or federal law to use individual credit history for employment purposes.

II. The applicant's, employee's, or independent contractor's job duties involve financial management or responsibility.

III. The position may render the applicant, employee, or independent contractor vulnerable to bribery, fraud, or other financial mismanagement.

IV. The employer or independent contractor has a bona fide purpose related to addressing a threat of harm to the business for requesting or using information in the credit history report and is substantially related to the applicant's or employee's current or potential job.

**Amendment to HB 1411-FN
(2022-0194h)**

Proposed by the Committee on State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

**Amendment to HB 1456-FN
(2022-0039h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Public Works and Highways – r

Amend the bill by replacing section 2 with the following:

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

2022-0039h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This amendment changes the effective date from 60 days after passage to upon passage.

**Amendment to HB 1466
(2022-0406h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs – c

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

1 New Paragraph; Physicians and Surgeons; Disciplinary Action; Off-Label Use of Prescription Drug. Amend RSA 329:17 by inserting after paragraph VI-a the following new paragraph:

VI-b. The state of New Hampshire confirms its strong support for shared decision making between healthcare professionals and their patients. A licensee may lawfully prescribe an FDA approved drug product for an off-label indication where there is sound scientific medical evidence or when the licensee has provided and documented informed consent for the patient including a disclosure that a prescription is for an off-label indication. A licensee shall be held to the same standard of care as when prescribing for on-label indications.

2 New Paragraph; Nurse Practice Act; Advanced Practice Registered Nurse; Disciplinary Action; Off-label Use of Prescription Drug. Amend RSA 326-B:37 by inserting after paragraph III the following new paragraph:

III-a. The state of New Hampshire confirms its strong support for shared decision making between healthcare professionals and their patients. A licensee may lawfully prescribe an FDA approved drug product for an off-label indication where there is sound scientific medical evidence or when the licensee has provided and documented informed consent for the patient including a disclosure that a prescription is for an off-label indication. A licensee shall be held to the same standard of care as when prescribing for on-label indications.

3 New Section; Physician Assistant; Disciplinary Action; Off-label Use of Prescription Drug. Amend RSA 328-D by inserting after section 6 the following new section:

328-D:6-a Off-label Use of Prescription Drugs; When Permitted. The state of New Hampshire confirms its strong support for shared decision making between healthcare professionals and their patients. A licensee may lawfully prescribe an FDA approved drug product for an off-label indication where there is sound scientific medical evidence or when the licensee has provided and documented informed consent for the patient including a disclosure that a prescription is for an off-label indication. A licensee shall be held to the same standard of care as when prescribing for on-label indications.

4 New Section; Pharmacists and Pharmacies; Prescriptions. Amend RSA 318 by inserting after section 13 the following new section:

318:13-a Filling of Prescriptions. No licensed pharmacist shall face non-disciplinary or disciplinary action by the pharmacy board for filling a valid prescription for an off-label use.

5 Effective Date. The act shall take effect upon its passage.

2022-0406h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill clarifies circumstances under which a physician, physician assistant, and advanced practice registered nurse may prescribe a drug for an off-label indication. The bill also prohibits disciplinary action against a pharmacist for filling a valid prescription for off-label use.

Amendment to HB 1515

(2022-0319h)

Proposed by the Committee on Children and Family Law – c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to the guardian ad litem report requirements.

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

1 Parental Rights and Responsibilities; Guardian ad Litem. Report Requirements Modified. Amend RSA 461-A:16, I-c to read as follows:

I-c. The guardian ad litem shall file a report of his or her investigation no later than the date of the final pretrial hearing. The report shall ***include only factual information and shall not propose any recommendations*** ~~[not propose any of the following unless specifically requested by the court:-~~

~~(a) An allocation of decision-making responsibility;~~

~~(b) A parenting plan; or~~

~~(c) A specific parenting schedule].~~

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

2022-0319h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill modifies the requirements of the guardian ad litem report.

Amendment to HB 1534

(2022-0908h)

Proposed by the Committee on Transportation – c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Section; Equipment Authorized for Antique Motor Vehicles. Amend RSA 266 by inserting after section 116 the following new section:

266:117 Equipment Authorized for Antique Motor Vehicles. Exhaust systems discharging along the side of the vehicle shall be allowed on antique motor vehicles, provided the exhaust discharge point is to the rear edge of either door if the vehicle has 2 doors and to the rear edge of either rear door if the vehicle has 4 doors, and any such system shall direct exhaust gas away from the vehicle.

**Amendment to HB 1548-LOCAL
(2022-0756h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Public Works and Highways – c

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Sale of Lakes Region; Restrictions. Amend RSA 10:11 by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. If the sale of the Lakes Region Facility includes the portion that includes the parcel identified as 50-67 Communication Drive containing a state 911 call center and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid then a portion of the proceeds of the sale shall be used to relocate this facility to a new location. Relocation shall include purchase of land, if necessary, and the renovation or construction of a new facility.

2022-0756h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill makes provisions for the state 911 call center and Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid upon the sale of the Lakes Region Facility.

**Amendment to HB 1554-FN
(2022-0548h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development – c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to online payment of fees relating to the operation of off highway recreational vehicles and snowmobiles.

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

1 New Section; Off Highway Recreational Vehicles; Online Payment. Amend RSA 215-A by inserting after section 44 the following new section:

215-A:45 Online Payment of Fees. The executive director shall establish any procedures that may be necessary to enable the online payment of registration fees required or imposed under this chapter.

2 New Section; Snowmobiles; Online Payment. Amend RSA 215-C by inserting after section 58 the following new section:

215-C:59 Online Payment of Fees. The executive director shall establish any procedures that may be necessary to enable the online payment of registration fees required or imposed under this chapter.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2022-0548h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the executive director of fish and game to establish procedures for enabling online payment of registration fees.

**Amendment to HB 1681-FN
(2022-0422h)**

Proposed by the Committee on Executive Departments and Administration – c

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to the state building code and the state fire code.

Amend the bill by replacing all after section 8 with the following:

9 New Hampshire Fire Code. Amend RSA 153:1, VI-a to read as follows:

VI-a. “New Hampshire fire code” or “state fire code” means the adoption by reference of the Life Safety Code, [2015] *NFPA 101, 2018* edition, and the Uniform Fire Code NFPA 1, [2015] *2018* edition, as published by the National Fire Protection Association and as amended by the state board of fire control and ratified by the general court pursuant to RSA 153:5. The provisions of any other national code, model code, or standard referred to within a code listed in this definition shall be included in the state fire code unless amended in accordance with RSA 153:5.

10 State Fire Code; Ratification of Amendments; State Board of Fire Control. Pursuant to RSA 153:5, I, the general court hereby ratifies all amendments reviewed and approved by the board of fire control as of January 30, 2021.

11 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2022-0422h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Revises the definition of the state building code.

II. Addresses the version of the building code applicable immediately following adoption of an updated edition, and clarifies the role of the state building code review board.

III. Requires municipalities to submit local building ordinances to the state building code review board for informational purposes.

IV. Revises the definition of the New Hampshire fire code.

V. Ratifies amendments to the state fire code.

SESSION DAY LOGISTICS MARCH 10, 2022

The House will meet on Thursday, March 10th at 9:00 a.m. in Representative's Hall.

PARKING

All legislators should park where they are assigned to park. Those with assigned street spaces should only park in the space assigned to them. Only those with assigned LOB garage spaces will be permitted to access the LOB garage. All others should park in the Storrs Street garage. There will be a shuttle operating to bring legislators from the Storrs Street garage to the State House. The shuttle will pick up and drop off passengers at the ground level of the garage.

HEALTH SELF-SCREENING

Members are recommended to utilize the antigen self-tests provided by the General Court prior to attendance. Test kits were mailed in advance. To provide you with the timeliest results, the test should be administered as close to session day as possible. You do not need to report your results to the General Court. However, if your test is positive, please stay home and immediately follow [NH DHHS guidelines for isolation](#).

All attendees are asked to [screen themselves](#) prior to arrival at the State House for fever, symptoms of COVID-19, and additional risk factors. See questions below for screening:

Do you have any symptoms of COVID-19 or fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher? The symptoms of COVID-19 can include:

Fever, or feeling feverish; Respiratory symptoms such as runny nose, nasal congestion, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath; General body symptoms such as muscle aches, chills, and severe fatigue; Gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea; and Changes in a person's sense of taste or smell.

Do you share a household with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 in the prior 10 days and are unvaccinated?

Any Non-Member with a positive answer to any of the above questions is not to attend the House session. Any Member with a positive answer to the above questions are recommended not to attend the session.

LUNCH

The House will break for lunch. You are responsible for your own lunch and snacks. The State House cafeteria will be open and serving a limited menu to accommodate a high volume of patrons. There are a number of restaurants within walking distance to the State House.

SEATING/VOTING

Members should sit only in their assigned seats when in Representatives Hall.

Division and roll call votes will require use of the voting buttons at your assigned seat.

MICROPHONES

All speakers will need to use the microphones at the well, on either side of the Speaker's rostrum. Please remember to not cross in front of the rostrum as you make your way to a microphone.

Sanitizing wipes will be located at each podium so microphones may be cleaned in between speakers, if desired.

RESTROOMS

There are restrooms available on each of the 4 floors (B through 3) of the State House for your convenience.

LEAVING/RETURNING TO REPS HALL

Following past practice, Members may leave the hall and monitor debates in via audio feeds in other rooms*, the House Gallery, the anteroom, or via live stream on their mobile device at a place of their choosing within close proximity of the chamber.

Those choosing to view the livestream video via the internet should take into account that there is a delay of up to 30 seconds.

Roll call and division votes will be announced by the Speaker over the PA system and by the Sergeant at Arms staff in the hallways. Members are asked to return to their seats as quickly as possible in order to vote using the buttons at their assigned seats.

To the best of his ability, the Speaker will announce when the debate has come to the last speaker on a bill so members may begin returning to the chamber before the roll call or division vote is called.

Pursuant to House Rule 22, no member shall vote in any case if the member is not present [in the chamber] when the question is put. Pursuant to House Rule 24, no member shall leave his or her seat while the voting machine is in use and until the Speaker announces the result of the vote.

Members should not participate in voice votes from the gallery, which is not part of the chamber, and would violate House Rule 22.

**Rooms other than the gallery and anteroom that have a live audio feed include the House Democratic Office (Room 307), House Majority Office (Room 313), Speaker's Reception Office (Room 312), Webster Conference Room (Room 308), Legislator Lounge (Rooms 122-123).*

MASKS USAGE AND AVAILABILITY

Members are recommended to wear face masks. There is no mask requirement anywhere in the State House complex. N-95 and regular disposable masks will be made available to Members in the anteroom.

PUBLIC AND PRESS ACCESS

The event will be live-streamed, and the link to watch the event live will be posted on the General Court website. The House Gallery will be open.

The platform located in the back part of the House Chamber is reserved for members of the press only. Please note, State House reporters will be accommodated first in case of space availability. Camera operators may use the end aisles to get close up photos, but may not be stationed there. Members of the press will not be allowed to set up on either end aisles or directly behind Members. No member of the press may interact with House Members on the Chamber floor.

HVAC/VENTILATION

The HVAC system in Representatives Hall was replaced and updated in 2019. It has an air exchange rate that meets or exceeds indoor air quality standards. It uses MERV-13 filtration. The General Court will supplement the HVAC system with portable HEPA/ UV-C air filtration units like those that are used in the Legislative Office Building. Additional portable units will be located in the anteroom.

ADDITIONAL MITIGATION EFFORTS

Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be stationed throughout the anteroom. Frequent hand hygiene is recommended especially after restroom use and before eating. Touchpoint disinfection will be employed throughout the day.

Should there be any Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requests for accommodations specific to attendance in Representatives Hall, these should be submitted to the General Court's ADA representative in advance of the session. Requests can be emailed to Jennifer.Becker@leg.state.nh.us.