

CHAPTER 20
HB 418 - FINAL VERSION

5Jan2022... 2168h

2022 SESSION

21-0650
04/06

HOUSE BILL **418**

AN ACT relative to supreme court reporting.

SPONSORS: Rep. M. Smith, Straf. 6

COMMITTEE: Judiciary

ANALYSIS

This bill makes various changes to the statute governing the supreme court reporter and supreme court reports.

This bill is a request of the judicial branch.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to supreme court reporting.

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

1 20:1 The State Reporter and Reports; Appointment. Amend RSA 505:1 to read as follows:

2 505:1 Appointment. The supreme court shall appoint a suitable person to be reporter of its
3 decisions~~[- and may remove him at pleasure. Before entering upon his duties, he shall be sworn].~~ ***The***
4 ***reporter shall be sworn before assuming the duties of the office. The reporter may be removed from office***
5 ***pursuant to procedures established by the supreme court.***

6 20:2 The State Reporter and Reports. Amend RSA 505:7 through RSA 505:11 to read as follows:

7 505:7 Publication. The reporter shall, as soon as practicable after a decision is announced, publish a
8 report of each case in which an opinion is furnished by the court. ~~[The report shall include the opinion~~
9 ~~furnished by the court.]~~

10 505:8 Style, Etc. of Reports.

11 *I.* The reports ~~[shall be published in volumes entitled "New Hampshire Reports," and shall give~~
12 ~~the extreme dates of the decisions on the title page. The size, style, and price of the volumes shall be~~
13 ~~prescribed by the justices of the court]~~ ***may be published either:***

14 ***(a) In volumes entitled "New Hampshire Reports." The size, style, and price of the volumes***
15 ***shall be prescribed by the justices of the court; or***

16 ***(b) On the supreme court website; or***

17 ***(c) In volumes as described in subparagraph (a) and on the supreme court website.***

18 *II.* ***The supreme court shall make available to the public printed copies of the New Hampshire***
19 ***Reports at the supreme court library.***

20 505:9 Sale of Reports ***and Disposal of Copyright.*** The reporter ~~[shall publish the reports and]~~ ***may***
21 ***provide for the sale [thereof,] of the reports*** and may dispose of the copyright as ~~[he]~~ ***the reporter*** shall
22 deem expedient.

23 505:10 Disposal of Proceeds. The reporter shall pay each month to the state treasurer all money
24 received from ~~[such sales and from subscriptions]~~ ***the sale of reports or from any subscription service***
25 ***developed for delivery of the reports.***

26 505:11 Distribution of Court Reports. ***At the direction of the chief justice of the supreme court,*** the
27 reporter ~~[shall, unless otherwise directed by the chief justice of the supreme court,]~~ ***may*** send one copy of
28 the court reports to each of the following officers and bodies: Justices and clerks of the supreme and
29 superior courts, the office of clerk in each county, state reporter, each free public library established under
30 the laws of the state, the department of justice, the clerk of the Supreme Court of the United States, the
31 Library of Congress at Washington, the ~~[judge]~~ ***judges*** and clerk of the District Court of the United States
32 for the District of New Hampshire, and the state library of each state of the United States with which the

CHAPTER 20
HB 418 - FINAL VERSION

- Page 2 -

1 New Hampshire law library or state library maintains an exchange agreement covering court reports. The
2 residue may be drawn upon by the law library or the state library for their own use or for additional
3 exchange agreements. The law library or state library may recover all sets and/or partial sets of court
4 reports located within those towns closing their free public libraries or desiring to dispose of court reports
5 furnished under this section. The law library or state library may establish full sets in public libraries [~~open~~
6 ~~daily~~] agreeing to make them available to all the people in the geographic area. The reclaimed sets [~~shall~~]
7 *may* be placed in the stock held by the reporter.

8 20:3 Repeal. RSA 505:12, relative to the annual salary of the supreme court reporter.

20:4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

Approved: April 18, 2022
Effective Date: June 17, 2022