SENATE BILL 163

AN ACT establishing a commission to recommend legislation to prepare for projected sea level rise and other coastal and coastal watershed hazards.


COMMITTEE: Energy and Natural Resources

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to recommend legislation to prepare for projected sea level rise and other coastal hazards.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in bold italics. Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.] Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.
188:1 New Chapter; Coastal Risk and Hazards Commission. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 483-D the following new chapter:

CHAPTER 483-E

COASTAL RISK AND HAZARDS COMMISSION

483-E:1 There is established a coastal risk and hazards commission.

483-E:2 Membership and Compensation.

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

(a) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

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

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

(d) The executive director of the fish and game department, or designee.

(e) The administrator of the bureau of public works design and construction, or designee.

(f) The commissioner of the department of transportation, or designee.

(g) The director of the division of parks and recreation, or designee.

(h) The director of the division of historical resources, or designee.

(i) The president of the Seacoast Board of Realtors, or designee.

(j) The director of the New Hampshire Sea Grant, or designee.

(k) A representative of the New Hampshire Public Risk Management Exchange, appointed by the exchange.

(l) The director of the office of energy and planning, or designee.

(m) The president of the Homebuilders and Remodelers Association of New Hampshire, or designee.

(n) The commissioner of the department of resources and economic development, or designee.

(o) The president of the university of New Hampshire, or designee.

(p) A representative of the New Hampshire Municipal Association, appointed by that
organization.

(q) A representative of the Strafford regional planning board, appointed by that body.

(r) A representative of the Rockingham regional planning board, appointed by that body.

(s) One representative of each of the following towns, appointed by his or her town’s
governing body: Rollinsford, Greenland, Stratham, Exeter, Newfields, Newmarket, Portsmouth,
Rye, North Hampton, Hampton, Dover, Hampton Falls, Seabrook, Newington, New Castle,
Madbury, and Durham.

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

III. 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. The first meeting
of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Eighteen
members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.

483-E:3 Duties.

I. The commission shall recommend legislation, rules, and other actions to prepare for
projected sea level rise and other coastal and coastal watershed hazards such as storms, increased
river flooding, and storm water runoff, and the risks such hazards pose to municipalities and state
assets in New Hampshire.

II. The commission shall review National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and
other scientific agency projections of coastal storm inundation, and flood risk to determine the
appropriate information, data, and property risks.

III. The commission shall meet 4 times per year.

IV. The commission shall annually 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, and the state library on or before November 1.

188:2 Repeal. RSA 483-E, relative to the coastal risk and hazards commission, is repealed.

188:3 Effective Date.

I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect December 1, 2016.

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

Approved: July 2, 2013

Effective Date: I. Section 2 shall take effect December 1, 2016.

II. Remainder shall take effect July 2, 2013.