

Advisory Opinion 2014-2
Response to a Request for an Advisory Opinion
from Senator Jeffrey Woodburn
(November 21, 2014)

Please Note: For clarity, references to and excerpts from provisions of statutes or the Ethics Guidelines have been updated to conform to subsequent changes in numbering and language, where the changes have not affected the substance of the Opinion.

Senator Jeffrey Woodburn has sought an Advisory Opinion about whether sponsored support for meals and accommodation to be received by Senators during a projected tour of the North Country, will qualify for exemption from the prohibition on “Gifts” under RSA 14-C:3, as “Expense Reimbursement” under RSA 14-C:2, IV(b)(10).

According to information provided by Sen. Woodburn, in addition to visits to North Country health, educational, industrial and correctional facilities, the projected tour would include free accommodations and a reception provided by the Omni Mount Washington Resort and a dinner sponsored by the New Hampshire Association of Realtors.

Based on the information provided by Senator Woodburn about the tour’s purposes and activities, such support would so qualify. See Interpretive Ruling 2013-1.

Senators receiving such support must report it in accordance with RSA 14-C:4.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance.

Martin L. Gross, Chairman
Representative Janet G. Wall, Vice Chairman
Representative Jordan G. Ulery
Senator Jim Rausch
Senator Martha Fuller Clark
Attorney Wilfred L. Sanders, Jr.
Mr. David A. Welch

For the Committee,
Martin L. Gross
Chairman

[Vote: 7-0]