

April 11, 2024  
No. 15A

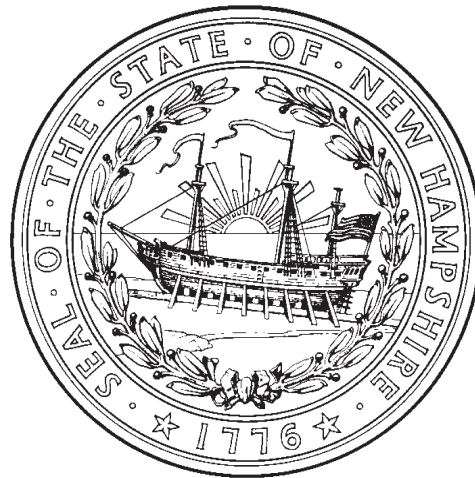
# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Website Address: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us>

Senate Meeting Schedule Website Address:  
<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/senate/schedule/dailyschedule.aspx>

All Standing Committee hearings will be livestreamed on the NH Senate's YouTube channel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/NewHampshireSenateLivestream>

Links are also available on the Senate Meeting Schedule.



Second Year of the 168<sup>th</sup> Session of the  
New Hampshire General Court

# SENATE CALENDAR ADDENDUM

---

**THE SENATE WILL MEET IN SESSION ON  
THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M.**

---

**The Senate Session on Thursday, April 18, 2024, in the Senate Chamber  
will be live streamed at the following link:**

<https://youtube.com/live/n4u-SBlhcLg?feature=share>

**Please note, this link will not be live until the Senate Session on  
Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **LAID ON THE TABLE**

**SB 305-FN**, relative to allowing wholesalers of cigarettes to retain tax revenue collected for each package of cigarettes with tax stamps sold.**02/08/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Ways and Means, SJ 3**

**SB 307-FN**, relative to electric transmission service agreements.**04/05/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

**SB 309-FN**, relative to the vesting period for members of the state retirement system.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 328-FN**, relative to deceptive ticket sale practices.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Commerce, SJ 9**

**SB 335-FN**, relative to alcohol packaging.**03/21/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Commerce, SJ 7**

**SB 342-FN**, relative to school building aid funding.**04/05/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

**SB 343**, relative to school based health services.**01/18/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Education, SJ 2**

**SB 346-FN**, prohibiting the use of dogs while hunting coyotes.**02/15/2024, Pending Motion Inexpedient to Legislate, Energy and Natural Resources, SJ 4**

**SB 392-FN-A**, relative to lead paint hazard remediation.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 394-FN-A**, relative to the cyanobacteria mitigation loan and grant fund.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 397-FN-A**, making an appropriation for OHRV trails.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 410-FN**, making appropriations to the department of health and human services to support community and transitional housing through community mental health centers.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 452-FN-A**, relative to making an appropriation for the hiring and training of small business development counselors in rural areas of New Hampshire.**02/21/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Finance, SJ 5**

**SB 483-FN**, relative to establishing an office of regulatory efficiency and oversight.**02/21/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Executive Departments and Administration, SJ 5**

**SB 484-FN**, relative to completion of the birth worksheet for hospital or institutional birth.**02/21/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Executive Departments and Administration, SJ 5**

**SB 512-FN**, relative to the 10-year highway plan.**03/07/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Transportation, SJ 6**

**SB 516-FN**, relative to prohibiting collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join a labor union.**04/05/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Commerce, SJ 8**

**SB 519-FN**, relative to evictions based on the owner's intent to renovate the property.**04/05/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Commerce, SJ 8**

**SB 522-FN-A**, relative to establishing an early childhood education scholarship account and making an appropriation therefor.**04/05/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Finance, SJ 8**

**SB 551-FN-A**, relative to making an appropriation for rail trail project matching funds.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Finance, SJ 9**

**SB 562-FN**, relative to state recognition of biological sex.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Ought to Pass, Judiciary, SJ 9**

**SB 565-FN**, relative to discrimination in education and employment based on hairstyles historically associated with race.**03/07/2024, Pending Motion OT3rdg, Judiciary, SJ 6**

**SB 590-FN-A**, making an appropriation to address damage done to the seacoast during January storms.**04/11/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Finance, SJ 9**

**HB 307-FN**, relative to attorney's fees in actions under the right to know law.**02/15/2024, Pending Motion Interim Study, Finance, SJ 4**

**HB 572-FN**, relative to eligibility for free school meals.**01/03/2024, Pending Motion Refer to Finance Rule 4-5, Education, SJ 1**

## CONSENT CALENDAR REPORTS

### ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS

**HB 70**, relative to residency requirements for deputy town clerks.

Inexpedient to Legislate, Vote 5-0.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

This bill would remove the reference to filling vacancies for the town clerk when the deputy town clerk does not have their domicile in town. The Committee determined that removing this reference in statute would have a negative effect on filling vacancies instead of a positive one. Additionally, the negative consequences would affect smaller municipalities greater than those with a bigger population.

**HB 1052**, relative to the format of excavating and dredging permit applications.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Soucy for the committee.

This bill requires a person submitting an excavating and dredging permit to submit a paper copy and a digital copy of the form to the municipality. Doing this will reduce the storage space needed for municipalities as well as make accessibility for 91:A requests easier. Digital copies of permits will modernize and simplify the process for those that are required to review them.

**HB 1055**, relative to the property tax exemption for charitable organizations.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

This bill, as amended, permits a charitable organization to file a late application for a property tax exemption. The application and approval must be completed prior to the setting of the local tax rate for that year. This enabling legislation will allow non-profit organizations extra time if they were prevented from submitting their application due to a mistake, accident or misfortune of some kind.

**HB 1154**, relative to property tax exemptions for certain disabled veterans.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

This bill clarifies eligibility for certain disabled veterans to be exempt from property taxes. The language in the current statute has caused confusion. This legislation refers to criteria established by RSA 21:50, and homes that have been specially adapted by the Veterans Administration, as requirements for eligibility. Having more defined criteria will provide clarity for the veterans and municipalities.

**HB 1550**, authorizing municipalities to reduce speed limits seasonally.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Soucy for the committee.

This bill, as amended, allows municipalities to reduce speed limits to 20 miles per hour, on municipal roads, during seasons of high traffic. Currently, the lowest municipalities can reduce the speed limit is to 25 miles per hour. There have been pedestrian safety concerns among residents of New Hampshire's many tourist towns and this enabling legislation will address those concerns.

**HB 1696**, relative to local records retention.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

This bill will fund and equip the local government record manager with online storage of records that are available for public access. Additionally, the state archivist will maintain the records which will make them more accessible to the public and reduce the time local officials have to spend replying to right to know requests. The archivist will maintain the records on a web site commonly used by other states to keep records publicly accessible.

## **REGULAR CALENDAR REPORTS**

### **EDUCATION**

**HB 1015-FN**, relative to requirements for literacy skill development in elementary grades.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Gendreau for the committee.

**HB 1382-FN**, granting witness fee reimbursement to unrepresented parents in the armed forces who prevail in special education hearings.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Gendreau for the committee.

**HB 1655**, including in the commissioner of the department of education's rulemaking authority the authority to make rules regarding collection of fees for criminal background check processing.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0.

Senator Fenton for the committee.

### **ELECTION LAW AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS**

**HB 243**, requiring the tabulation of votes in elections to be done in public.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Soucy for the committee.

**HB 476**, enabling the secretary of state to conduct a second recount after an election.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

**HB 1146**, relative to the removal of a voter from the checklist.

Interim Study, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

**HB 1302**, relative to elected conservation commissions in towns.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-1.

Senator Murphy for the committee.

**HB 1361**, relative to municipal land use regulation for manufactured housing and subdivisions.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Abbas for the committee.

### **ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**HB 558-FN**, requiring the department of energy to initiate a microgrid study.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Avard for the committee.

**HB 609-FN**, relative to the site evaluation committee for energy facility siting.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 4-0.

Senator Watters for the committee.

### **EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

**HB 1004**, relative to repealing the judicial conduct commission.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Perkins Kwoka for the committee.

**HB 1233**, relative to animal chiropractors.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gendreau for the committee.

**HB 1433-FN**, relative to the donation of archival records to the state and relative to classified positions in the secretary of state's office.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Altschiller for the committee.

**HB 1627**, relative to recodifying certain laws concerning railroads, transportation, and telecommunications.

Ought to Pass, Vote 4-0.

Senator Gendreau for the committee.

### **FINANCE**

**HB 229-FN**, relative to requiring an official declaration of war for the activation of the New Hampshire national guard.

Interim Study, Vote 7-0.

Senator D'Allesandro for the committee.

**HB 436-FN-L**, making an appropriation to the New Hampshire retirement system to pay down the unfunded accrued liability.

Interim Study, Vote 7-0.

Senator Gray for the committee.

**HB 468-FN-A**, making an appropriation to the department of education for an attorney to recodify education laws. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0.

Senator Innis for the committee.

**HB 1279-FN-L**, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers.

Interim Study, Vote 6-1.

Senator Pearl for the committee.

**HB 1303-FN**, relative to the estate of Tekeste Berhanu.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 7-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

### **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**HB 1088**, enabling schools to maintain a supply of epinephrine auto-injectors.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Birdsell for the committee.

**HB 1171**, extending the commission to study environmentally-triggered chronic illness.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Avard for the committee.

**HB 1296-FN**, relative to insurance coverage for diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations.

Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Whitley for the committee.

**HB 1609-FN**, relative to the commission on the primary care workforce and the state office of rural health.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 5-0.

Senator Prentiss for the committee.

### **WAYS AND MEANS**

**HB 1191-FN**, relative to the establishment of an exemption to the meals and rooms tax for participants in the restaurant voucher program.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

**HB 1549**, relative to buy-in amount deductions collected during the operation of games of chance.

Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0.

Senator Lang for the committee.

**HB 1631**, establishing the commission to study revenue alternatives to the road toll, road toll registration charges, and revenue alternatives to vehicle registration fees to fund highway and bridge improvements.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0.

Senator Rosenwald for the committee.

## **AMENDMENTS**

Election Law and Municipal Affairs

April 16, 2024

2024-1522s

08/06

Amendment to HB 243

Amend RSA 659:63 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

659:63 Counting *and Tabulation* to be Public. The counting *and tabulation* of votes shall be public and conducted within the guardrail and shall not be adjourned nor postponed until it shall have been completed. No ballot shall be placed within 4 feet of the guardrail during the counting of votes. *In this section, "tabulation" means the aggregation of results from the printed results from the voting machine and hand counts to determine the final results of an election in a polling place or at the central polling location provided in RSA 659:59. Documents generated during the tabulation of votes shall*

***be available for public review when election results are announced at the polling place. If RSA 659:75, II applies, the printed results from the voting machine shall be posted for public review at the polling place within 60 minutes of running the last ballot through the machine or machines.***

Senate Finance  
March 16, 2024  
2024-1525s  
12/05

Amendment to HB 468-FN-A

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

AN ACT establishing a commission to recodify the education laws and making an appropriation therefor.

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

1 New Section; Recodification Commission Established. Amend RSA 17-A by inserting after section 8 the following new section:

17-A:9 Recodification Commission Established.

I. There is established a commission to draft proposed legislation for recodification of the education laws contained within Title XV, Chapters RSA 186 through 200-N.

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

- (1) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.
- (2) Two members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.
- (3) The commissioner of the department of education, or designee.
- (4) The director of legislative services, or designee.

(b) In addition, there shall be an advisory panel to the commission which shall consist of the following individuals and organizations:

- (1) A school board member appointed by the New Hampshire School Boards Association.
- (2) A teacher appointed by the commissioner of education.
- (3) A school administrator appointed by the New Hampshire School Administrators Association.
- (4) A representative of the state board of education, appointed by the board.
- (5) A representative of The National Education Association - New Hampshire (NEA-NH), appointed by the association.
- (6) Any additional individual or organization the commission deems relevant to its study and the recodification process.

III. The commission shall review the content and structure of the education laws to include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Review the content and structure of the education laws contained within Title XV, Chapters RSA 186 through 200-N;
- (b) Identify statutes within Title XV which are duplicative;
- (c) Identify statutes within Title XV which are contrary to other statutes within Title XV; and
- (d) Identify areas within Title XV which can be consolidated.
- (e) Draft proposed legislation for recodification of the education laws to be filed in the next regular legislative session.

IV. The members of the commission shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the senate member. The first meeting of the commission shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Three members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. Legislative members of the commission shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the commission.



V. The department of education and the office of legislative services shall provide technical and legal assistance to the committee. The department of education is authorized to engage an attorney for the purpose of assisting the department and commission in the recodification process. The commissioner or designee, in consultation with the attorney general, shall have exclusive supervisory authority over the attorney. The director of legislative services is also authorized, subject to approval of the legislative facilities committee, to engage an attorney to assist the office and commission in the recodification process.

VI. The committee shall report its findings and recommendations for proposed legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before September 30, 2026.

#### 2 Appropriations.

I. The sum of \$100,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, is hereby appropriated to the department of education, for the purpose of engaging an attorney to assist the recodification commission established in section 1 of this act.

II. The sum of \$100,000 for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, is hereby appropriated to the general court, office of legislative services, for the purpose of engaging an attorney on a part-time or temporary basis to assist the recodification commission established in section 1 of this act.

III. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

3 Repeal. RSA 17-A:9, as inserted by section 1 of this act, is repealed.

#### 4 Effective Date.

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

II. Section 3 of this act shall take effect November 1, 2026.

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

2024-1525s

### AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a commission to recodify the education statutes and makes an appropriation to the legislature for this purpose.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs

April 16, 2024

2024-1516s

08/02

#### Amendment to HB 476

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

AN ACT relative to recount and audit procedures and the declaration of results of a recount.

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

1 New Sections; Recount and Audit Procedures; Declaration of Results. Amend RSA 660 by inserting after section 17-b the following new sections:

660:17-c Recount and Audit Procedures; Publication. The secretary of state shall publish all recount and audit procedures, as well as the times to hold any recounts and audits that may take place. The secretary of state shall complete any audit conducted under this chapter prior to the commencement of a recount for any recount requested.

660:17-d Review Prior to Declaration of Results. For each recount, the secretary of state shall review election materials certified by local election officials prior to announcing the results of a recount and declaring a candidate elected.

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

2024-1516s

## AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the secretary of state to publish recount and audit procedures and the times at which recounts and audits shall take place. This bill also requires the secretary of state to review election material certified by local election officials prior to announcing the results of a recount and declaring a candidate elected.

Energy and Natural Resources

April 10, 2024

2024-1485s

06/02

## Amendment to HB 609-FN

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

1 Energy Facility Evaluation, Siting, Construction and Operation. Amend RSA 162-H:1 to read as follows:

162-H:1 Declaration of Purpose. The legislature recognizes that the selection of sites for energy facilities may have significant impacts on and benefits to the following: the welfare of the population, private property, the location and growth of industry, the overall economic growth of the state, the environment of the state, ***the fish and wildlife resources of the state***, historic sites, aesthetics, air and water quality, the use of natural resources, and public health and safety. Accordingly, the legislature finds that it is in the public interest to maintain a balance among those potential significant impacts and benefits in decisions about the siting, construction, and operation of energy facilities in New Hampshire; that undue delay in the construction of new energy facilities be avoided; that full and timely consideration of environmental consequences be provided; that all entities planning to construct facilities in the state be required to provide full and complete disclosure to the public of such plans; and that the state ensure that the construction and operation of energy facilities is treated as a significant aspect of land-use ***and offshore*** planning in which all environmental, economic, and technical issues are resolved in an integrated fashion. In furtherance of these objectives, the legislature hereby establishes a procedure for the review, approval, monitoring, and enforcement of compliance in the planning, siting, construction, and operation of energy facilities.

2 Energy Facility Siting; Definition. Amend RSA 162-H:2, VII(g) to read as follows:

(g) An electrical storage facility with a peak storage capacity of 30 [~~megawatt-hours~~] ***megawatts*** or greater.

3 Energy Facility Siting; Site Evaluation Committee. RSA 162-H:3 is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

162-H:3 Site Evaluation Committee Established.

I. There is hereby established a committee to be known as the New Hampshire site evaluation committee consisting of 5 members, as follows:

(a) The 3 commissioners of the public utilities commission, the chairperson of which shall be the chairperson of the committee;

(b) The commissioner of the department of environmental services; and

(c) One public member and, when required pursuant to paragraph VI, an alternate public member, both of whom shall be appointed as described in RSA 162-H:4-b.

II. All members, including those who sit for a member recused under paragraph VI, shall refrain from ex parte communications regarding any matter pending before the committee.

III. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting the committee's business, except that the 3 public utilities commissioners alone shall not constitute a quorum.

IV. The committee shall be administratively attached to the department of energy pursuant to RSA 21-G:10.

V. The chairperson shall serve as the chief executive of the committee and may:

(a) Delegate to other members the duties of presiding officer, as appropriate.

(b) Perform administrative actions for the committee, as may a presiding officer.

(c) Establish, with the consent of the committee, the budgetary requirements of the committee.

(d) Engage personnel in accordance with this chapter.

VI. If at any time a member must recuse himself or herself on a matter or is not otherwise available for good reason, such person, if a state employee, may designate a senior administrative employee or a staff



attorney from his or her agency to sit on the committee. The commissioner of the department of environmental services may, with the consent of the respective commissioner or director, and subject to the approval of the chairperson, designate a senior administrative employee from the department of transportation, the department of natural and cultural resources, the department of business and economic affairs, the division of historical resources, or the department of fish and game, to sit on the committee. In the case of the public member, the alternate public member shall serve as set forth in RSA 162-H:4-b.

4 Administrator and Support. Amend RSA 162-H:3-a to read as follows:

162-H:3-a Administrator and Other Committee Support. There is hereby established within the [site evaluation committee] **public utilities commission** the position of administrator who shall be an unclassified state employee. In the alternative, the position may be filled by an independent contractor. The administrator shall be hired by and under the supervision of the chairperson **of the public utilities commission and shall perform duties for the public utilities commission and the site evaluation committee as directed by the chairperson of the public utilities commission, with site evaluation duties having a higher priority. To the extent the administrator performs duties for the site evaluation committee, such duties shall be funded as set forth in RSA 162-H:21.** The administrator, or chairperson in the absence of an administrator, with committee approval, may engage additional technical, legal, or administrative support to fulfill the functions of the committee as necessary. Any person to be hired by the administrator shall be approved by the chairperson.

5 Public Member. RSA 162-H:4-b is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

162-H:4-b Public Members.

I. The governor, with the consent of the council, shall appoint a public member and an alternate public member to serve on the committee. The public member and alternate shall be residents of the state of New Hampshire with expertise or experience in one or more of the following areas: business management; environmental protection; natural resource protection; energy facility design, construction, operation, or management; community and regional planning or economic development; municipal or county government; or the governing of unincorporated places.

II. The public member and the alternate public member shall serve 4-year terms and until their successors are appointed and qualified. Any public member or alternate public member chosen to fill a vacancy occurring other than by expiration of term shall be appointed for the unexpired term of the member who is succeeded.

III. If at any time the public member must recuse himself or herself from a matter before the committee or is not otherwise available for good reason, the alternate public member shall replace such member.

IV. No public member nor any member of his or her family shall receive income from energy facilities within the jurisdiction of the committee. The public member and alternate shall comply with RSA 15-A and RSA 15-B.

V. Any public member or alternate may be removed from office by the governor and council for inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct or malfeasance in office, after being given a written statement of the charges and an opportunity to be heard.

6 Applications for Certificate. RSA 162-H:7, III through VI is repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

III. Upon filing of an application, the chairperson or designated presiding officer shall expeditiously conduct a preliminary review to ascertain if the application contains sufficient information to carry out the purposes of this chapter. If the application does not contain such sufficient information, the chairperson or designated presiding officer shall, in writing, expeditiously notify the applicant of that fact and specify what information the applicant must supply.

IV. Each application shall contain sufficient information to satisfy the application requirements of each state agency having jurisdiction, under state or federal law, to regulate any aspect of the construction or operation of the proposed facility, and shall include each agency's completed application forms, which shall be contemporaneously filed with the state agency having jurisdiction. Upon receipt of a copy, each agency shall conduct a preliminary review to ascertain if the application contains sufficient information for its purposes. If the application does not contain sufficient information for the purposes of any of the state agencies having permitting or other regulatory authority, that agency shall, in writing, notify the chairperson or designated presiding officer and the applicant of that fact and specify what information the applicant must supply. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of the time limitations imposed by this section, any application made under this section shall be deemed not accepted either by the chairperson or designated presiding officer or by any of the state agencies having permitting or other regulatory authority if the applicant is reasonably notified that it has not supplied sufficient information for any of the state agencies having permitting or other regulatory authority in accordance with this paragraph.

V. Each application shall also:

- (a) Describe in reasonable detail the type and size of each major part of the proposed facility.
- (b) Identify both the applicant's preferred choice and other alternatives it considers available for the site and configuration of each major part of the proposed facility and the reasons for the applicant's preferred choice.
- (c) Describe in reasonable detail the impact of each major part of the proposed facility on the environment for each site proposed.
- (d) Describe in reasonable detail the impact of each major part of the proposed facility on existing land and offshore uses.
- (e) Describe in reasonable detail the applicant's proposals for studying and solving environmental problems.
- (f) Describe in reasonable detail the applicant's financial, technical, and managerial capability for construction and operation of the proposed facility.
- (g) Document that written notification of the proposed project, including appropriate copies of the application, has been given to the appropriate governing body of each affected municipality, as defined in RSA 162-H:2, I-b. The application shall include a list of the affected municipalities.
- (h) Describe in reasonable detail the elements of and financial assurances for a facility decommissioning plan.
- (i) Provide such additional information as the committee may require to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

VI. The chairperson or designated presiding officer shall decide whether or not to accept the application as administratively complete within 60 days of filing. Notice of acceptance of the application shall be simultaneously provided to the applicant and the applicable state agency. If the chairperson or designated presiding officer rejects an application because it determines it to be administratively incomplete, the applicant may choose to file a new and more complete application or cure the defects in the rejected application within 10 days of receipt of notification of rejection.

7 Application of Certificate. New Paragraph; Coastal Zone Management Act Compliance. Amend RSA 162-H:7 by inserting after paragraph VIII the following new paragraph:

IX. In addition to the requirements of this chapter, applicants for the siting, construction and operation of an energy facility or renewable energy facility, as defined in this chapter, that require a federal license or permit, may be subject to the Coastal Zone Management Act federal consistency regulations 16 U.S.C. section 1456 and 15 C.F.R. Part 930 as implemented by the New Hampshire coastal program, pursuant to RSA 485-I:3.

8 Filing Fees; References to Subcommittees Removed. Amend RSA 162-H:8-a, II(d) to read as follows:

(d) Filing fees for administrative proceedings:

- (1) Petition for committee jurisdiction: \$12,600.
- (2) Petition for declaratory ruling: \$12,600[, or \$3,600 if heard by a 3-member subcommittee].
- (3) Certificate transfer of ownership: \$12,600[, or \$3,600 if heard by a 3-member subcommittee].
- (4) Request for exemption: \$12,600[, or \$3,600 if heard by a 3-member subcommittee].
- (5) Request to modify a certificate: \$12,600[, or \$3,600 if heard by a 3-member subcommittee].

9 Findings and Certificate Issuance. Amend RSA 162-H:16, II to read as follows:

II. Any certificate issued by the site evaluation committee shall be based on the record. The decision to issue a certificate in its final form or to deny an application once it has been accepted shall be made by a majority of the full membership. A certificate shall be conclusive on all questions of siting, land ~~use~~ **and offshore uses, and** air and water quality.

10 Findings and Certificate Issuance. Amend RSA 162-H:16, IV(c) to read as follows:

(c) The site and facility will not have an unreasonable adverse effect on aesthetics, historic sites, air and water quality, the natural environment, **fish and wildlife resources**, ~~and~~ public health and safety, **and existing land and offshore uses**.

11 Funding Plan; Reference Deleted. Amend RSA 162-H:21 to read as follows:

162-H:21 Fund Established; Funding Plan. There is hereby established in the office of the state treasurer a nonlapsing, special fund to be known as the site evaluation committee fund. All application and other filing fees received by the committee under RSA 162-H:8-a shall be deposited in the fund. All moneys in the fund shall be continually appropriated to the site evaluation committee and shall only be used to pay for operating costs of the committee, including, but not limited to, compensation and reimbursements made under RSA 162-H:22 for energy facility proceeding time and expenses, and administrator and other committee support costs under RSA 162-H:3[~~VII~~] and RSA 162-H:3-a, except those costs paid by applicants under RSA 162-H:10, and all monitoring and enforcement costs of the department, except those costs charged directly to applicants or owners. In the event lawful expenditures of the committee and department in a fiscal year are greater than the total fees and charges held in the site evaluation committee fund, the chair of the site evaluation committee may request, with prior approval of the fiscal committee, that the governor and council authorize additional funding from general funds not otherwise appropriated. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department may engage additional technical, legal, or administrative support to fulfill the requirements of this chapter, the cost of which shall be charged directly to the applicant or energy facility owner.

12 Applicability. Any adjudicative or administrative proceeding opened by the site evaluation committee prior to the effective date of this act shall be subject to the provisions of RSA 162-H in effect on the date the committee opened such proceeding.

13 Repeal. RSA 162-H:4-a, relative to subcommittees of the site evaluation committee, is repealed.

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

Election Law and Municipal Affairs

April 16, 2024

2024-1519s

05/08

#### Amendment to HB 1055

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Exemption. Amend RSA 72:23, VI to read as follows:

VI. Every charitable organization or society, except those religious and educational organizations and societies whose real estate is exempt under the provisions of paragraphs III and IV, shall annually before June 1, file with the municipality in which the property is located upon a form prescribed and provided by the board of tax and land appeals a statement of its financial condition for the preceding fiscal year and such other information as may be necessary to establish its status and eligibility for tax exemption. ***If any organization, otherwise qualified to receive an exemption, shall satisfy the selectmen that they were prevented by accident, mistake, or misfortune from filing an application on or before June 1, the officials may receive the application at a later date and grant an exemption thereunder for that year; but no such application shall be received or exemption granted after the local tax rate has been approved for that year.***

Senate Finance

April 16, 2024

2024-1523s

05/02

#### Amendment to HB 1303-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 Estate of Tekeste Behanu; Appropriation of Funds Escheated to the State of New Hampshire. All proceeds escheated to the general fund of the state of New Hampshire from the estate of Tekeste Behanu, formerly of Nashua, shall be appropriated as follows: 40 percent to Ascentria Care Alliance of New Hampshire, 40 percent to the International Institute of New England of Manchester, New Hampshire, and 20 percent to the Roca Kidz Club of Manchester, New Hampshire, to support work of those agencies in the resettlement of refugee children.

2024-1523s

## AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill appropriates the proceeds escheated from the estate of Tekeste Behanu to the state of New Hampshire to the International Institute of New England, Ascentria Care Alliance, and Roca Kidz Club.

Senate Ways and Means

April 10, 2024

2024-1474s

02/08

## Amendment to HB 1549

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

1 Operation of Games of Chance. Amend RSA 287-D:14, XVI to read as follows:

XVI. For games of chance where chips have no monetary face value, ~~[the payback in prizes shall not exceed 80 percent of the total amount collected from players]~~ ***a minimum of 20 percent or \$250 of the buy-in amount collected from players, whichever is less, shall be deducted from the buy-in amount with 35 percent of the total amount deducted paid to the charity and the balance retained by the game operator employer. For such games, a game operator employer may offer players the option of a dealer add-on where the player receives some amount of additional chips in exchange for paying an additional sum, provided that the dealer add-on shall not exceed \$25 and that 100 percent of the add-on shall be given to dealers as a gratuity.***

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

2024-1474s

## AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill changes the deduction from the buy-in amount collected from players for games of chance where chips have no monetary face value and allows game operator employers to offer players the option of a dealer add-on.

Election Law and Municipal Affairs

April 16, 2024

2024-1518s

12/08

## Amendment to HB 1550

Amend RSA 265:63, VI(a) as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

1 New Paragraph; Rules of the Road; Speed Limitations; Alteration of Limits. Amend RSA 265:63 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

VI.(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph I and RSA 265:60, II, or any other law to the contrary, the governing body of a municipality, or its designee, upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation, may act on its own, or in response to a petition of at least 10 residents of that municipality, to reduce any prima facie speed limit to provide reasonable and safe conditions upon any part of the municipal highway system that is seasonally congested by pedestrian or bicycle traffic.

Health and Human Services

April 10, 2024

2024-1477s

02/05

## Amendment to HB 1609-FN

Amend the bill by replacing section 4 with the following:

4 New Paragraph; Commission on the Interdisciplinary Primary Care Workforce Issues; Commission Established; Membership. Amend RSA 126-T:1 by inserting after paragraph XX the following new paragraph:

XXI. A direct primary care provider appointed by Direct Primary Care Frontier.

Senate Education  
April 10, 2024  
2024-1470s  
11/08

Amendment to HB 1655

Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

1 State Board of Education; Rulemaking Regarding Fees. Amend RSA 186:11, X(b) to read as follows:

(b) Fees to be paid to the commissioner of education for the administration of proficiency exams and other competence evaluations and other related fees including, but not limited to, fees for late filing and duplicate credentials, and for the issuance of educational credentials, ***and for the processing of criminal history record check clearance***. These fees must bear a reasonable relationship to the actual costs related to such activities. Funds collected from these fees shall be expended only for purposes of fulfilling the requirements of this paragraph. No portion of the funds collected from these fees shall lapse, nor be used for any other purpose than fulfilling the requirements of this paragraph, nor be transferred to any other appropriation.