Senate Commerce Committee

Agron Jones 271-2609

HB 1559-FN, repealing the chapter relative to cash dispensing machines.

Hearing Date: April 23, 2024

Time Opened: 10:31 a.m. Time Closed: 10:35 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gannon, Ricciardi, Innis, Soucy and

Chandley

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis: This bill repeals RSA 399-F relative to cash dispensing machines.

This is a request by the banking department.

Sponsors:

Rep. Hunt

Who supports the bill: Representative John Hunt, Bob Lamberti (NH Banking Department)

Who opposes the bill: No one

Who is neutral on the bill: No one

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Representative John Hunt

- This bill would repeal the cash dispensing statute.
- These machines are not banks; instead, they are non-depositories.
- Over the years, the Legislature has lowered their fees.
- Representative Hunt said there were no consumer protections for knowing where these machines are located, and there have not been many consumer complaints.
- **Senator Soucy** said she has received complaints about cryptocurrency ATMs, and she asked if that could be addressed.
 - Representative Hunt said the Banking Department does not regulate cryptocurrency; instead, the Consumer Protection Bureau could regulate it.

- **Senator Soucy** said it did not have to be the Department, but it could be some other form of identification.
 - o **Representative Hunt** said they have taken a position that cryptocurrency is a commodity, not monetary. Therefore, the regulatory authority would be with the Attorney General's Office.

Bob Lamberti, Deputy General Counsel, New Hampshire Banking Department

- This bill was designed to repeal the entire statute because its costs outweigh its benefits.
- In the entire time the Department has enforced the statute, there has been one complaint in their records. That complaint was resolved without further intervention.
- These machines would still be regulated under the Consumer Protection Act.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

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Date Hearing Report completed: April 24, 2024