

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 15, 2023

THE COMMITTEE ON Energy and Natural Resources

to which was referred **HB 257**

AN ACT

relative to telephone carrier of last resort
obligations.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

IS INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator David Watters
For the Committee

This bill sought to allow for an incumbent telephone utility to be relieved of its carrier of last resort obligations. The Department of Energy highlighted concerns about potential consequences, including residents left without access to essential communication services. The Committee acknowledged the ongoing broadband initiatives funded through the American Rescue Plan Act, potential gaps in emergency services, and the Department of Energy's reservations about unintended impacts. Balancing these factors, the Committee believes this is not the right time for this legislation.

Philip Tatro 271-1403

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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