

# LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

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## Restore Funding for Environmental State Aid Grants — Public Hearing Set for 11:00 a.m., Thursday, February 7

The House Finance Committee will hold a public hearing next week on [HB 623](#), an **NHMA policy bill** that seeks to restore funding for the environmental state aid grant program. The hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, February 7, at 11:00 a.m., in LOB Rooms 210-212.**

Historically, the state legislature has supported municipal wastewater, public drinking water, and landfill closure projects through the state aid grant (SAG) program administered by the Department of Environmental Services. Pursuant to RSA 486, RSA 486-A, and RSA 149-M, the legislature has expressly authorized the SAG program for municipalities to receive 20% to 30% of grant assistance toward principal and interest payments on completed and eligible environmental infrastructure projects. Since November 2008, however, state appropriations for new state aid grants have been “delayed and deferred.” There is currently a backlog of 127 projects from more than 50 municipalities with total eligible state aid grant project costs of about \$54 million.

**HB 623** calls for an appropriation of about \$8.8 million to honor this state obligation, which represents \$4.7 in the first year and \$4.1 million in the second year of repayment of monies owed to cities and towns. Cities and towns should not, and cannot, bear the financial burden of these infrastructure improvements alone. Municipalities are willing to pay their fair share of these investments costs, but they should not have to pay the state’s share as well. When the state honors its current legal obligation to fund the SAG program, local property taxpayers will experience some much-needed relief.

### Call to Action

We need every member directly affected by the SAG issue to attend this important public hearing and to contact members of the [House Finance Committee](#) and express strong support for **HB 623**.

**Policy Bills** - continued

NHMA will be holding a press conference on Thursday at **10:15 a.m.**, before the public hearing on **HB 623**, and all members are strongly encouraged to attend. Members should meet at the lobby of the Legislative Office Building (LOB) at **9:30 a.m.** to coordinate this activity. Please let NHMA's Tim Fortier ([tfortier@nhlgc.org](mailto:tfortier@nhlgc.org)) know if you plan to attend the press conference and public hearing.

If you are unable to attend the hearing, we ask that you submit a letter of support addressed to:

Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chairman  
House Finance Committee  
Rooms 210-212, Legislative Office Building  
Concord, NH 03301

Please send a copy of your letter of support to the [House Finance Committee](#) members. It is very important to keep NHMA staff informed about your actions.

### **Policy Bills Galore Next Week**

In addition to **HB 623**, described above, six — count 'em, six — NHMA policy bills are scheduled for hearings next week, four in the House and two in the Senate. If you are interested in any of these bills, please (1) contact your own legislators and/or members of the applicable committee; (2) attend the hearing; and/or (3) contact the Government Affairs staff if you have any questions.

Here they are:

**[HB 422](#) — municipal charters.** This bill would clarify and simplify the process for adopting, revising, or amending a municipal charter. This is of particular concern to towns that are interested in an alternative to the traditional town meeting form of government. A number of towns have explored the possibility of establishing a charter form of government, but have been frustrated by the complexity and ambiguity of the existing statute. The bill would make extensive changes to the statute, but in the end would lead to a much simpler process. The hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, February 7, at 10:45 a.m.**, before the Municipal & County Government Committee, in **LOB Room 301**.

**[HB 522](#) — signing manifests.** This bill allows town selectmen to sign a manifest ordering payments by the treasurer outside a public meeting. This would solve a problem for many towns that are faced with a choice of either scheduling a special meeting just to sign the manifest or violating the Right-to-Know Law. The manifest itself would still be subject to disclosure under the Right-to-Know Law, and if a quorum of the board meets to sign the manifest, they would have to comply with the law; but the bill would allow them to sign the manifest “noncontemporaneously” outside a public meeting. The hearing is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 5, at 1:15 p.m.**, before the Municipal & County Government Committee, in **LOB Room 301**.

**Policy Bills** - continued

**HB 506 — period for adopting ordinances.** In a town with 10,000 or more residents, the selectmen may adopt and amend town ordinances and codes if authorized by a vote of the town meeting. Current law requires the selectmen to hold two public hearings not more than 14 days apart before adopting an ordinance or amendment. After the second hearing, they must vote on the proposed ordinance or amendment within 14 days. Both periods create a problem for a board that meets twice a month if, for example, the board meets on Monday nights and there are five Mondays in the month when the ordinance is being considered. **HB 506** would solve this problem by extending both periods to 21 days. The hearing is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 5, at 1:30 p.m.**, before the Municipal & County Government Committee, in **LOB Room 301**.

**HB 543 — damage from town road repairs.** This bill establishes a clear process to be followed, exclusive of any other remedy, when a property owner claims that his or her property has been damaged by town road repairs or maintenance. The hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, February 7, at 1:30 p.m.**, before the House Judiciary Committee, in **LOB Room 208**.

**SB 49 — planning board appeals.** Under current law, certain decisions of a planning board relative to subdivision or site plan review are appealable to the superior court, while others are appealable to the zoning board of adjustment. The problem is that the appeal periods run simultaneously, and it is not always clear whether a particular decision, or part of a decision, is appealable to the court or to the ZBA. To avoid the loss of appeal rights by appealing to the wrong forum, the smart land use attorney may appeal a decision to both places, resulting in unnecessary expense and effort for everyone. This bill addresses the problem by ensuring that a party will not be prejudiced by inadvertently appealing to the wrong forum. The hearing is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 6, at 9:00 a.m.**, before the Senate Public & Municipal Affairs Committee, in **LOB Room 102**.

**SB 58 — PILOT agreements for water works property.** Under current law, when one municipality owns property in another for the purpose of a water supply or flood control, the property is officially not taxed, but the owning municipality must pay the host municipality an amount equal to what the host municipality would receive for taxes on the assessed value of such land, subject to certain adjustments. **SB 58** would allow the municipalities instead to negotiate a payment in lieu of taxes for the property. In the absence of a negotiated payment, the existing law would continue to apply. The hearing is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 6, at 11:00 a.m.**, before the Senate Public & Municipal Affairs Committee, in **LOB Room 102**.

### **Local Officials Support Municipal Control of NHMA**

The Senate Public & Municipal Affairs Committee heard testimony Wednesday on **SB 78**, which was described as an attempt to (1) define the New Hampshire Municipal Association as a “nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization of cities and towns,” (2) require that only elected officials serve on its board of directors, and (3) place new restrictions on its lobbying activities.

**Local Officials** - continued

Three people testified in support of the bill — the prime sponsor, the Secretary of State, and the union president of the Professional Firefighters of New Hampshire. The sponsor stated that the intent of the bill is to “define what the New Hampshire Municipal Association is” because there is “confusion” about NHMA's status. The Secretary of State supported the bill's language “defining” NHMA as a nonprofit organization. He stated repeatedly that because NHMA is organized as an LLC, it is by definition a for-profit entity and therefore operating inappropriately.

The claim that NHMA is a for-profit entity is plainly wrong. As NHMA staff pointed out, the organization is recognized as tax-exempt by the Internal Revenue Service. The Charitable Trusts Division of the Attorney General's office agrees that an LLC may operate as a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity. The IRS itself has expressly ruled that an LLC may operate as a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity.

Selectmen, councilors, and municipal managers from Moultonborough, Lebanon, Franklin, Newmarket, Laconia, Hooksett, Pelham, and Bow spoke against the bill, objecting to the effort to exclude appointed officials from the board. More broadly, they respectfully asked why the state has any business dictating how a voluntary organization of municipalities ought to govern itself—and why, if that is appropriate, the legislature should not do the same with respect to a whole array of organizations, from the School Boards Association to the Police Chiefs Association.

In response to the objections about excluding appointed officials from the board, the sponsor plans to offer an amendment that would allow a 50-50 split between elected and appointed officials—which is approximately what the current composition is. The bill as amended, then, would require NHMA to be what it already is—a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization of cities and towns—and to be governed the way it already is. While that may seem to make this harmless legislation, it remains inappropriate for the legislature to dictate NHMA's governance structure, and one must ask: where will this end? What legislation limiting the authority of NHMA's members will be filed next year?

What was very clear from the testimony of the local officials who opposed the bill is that municipalities value and rely on the services NHMA provides. They oppose the attempt to have the legislature interfere with their organization, and they believe the municipal members of NHMA should govern the organization, and no one else. No municipality is required to join NHMA, but the organization maintains a membership level of almost 100% of the state's cities and towns.

***The Public & Municipal Affairs Committee will vote on this bill next Wednesday, February 7. If your senator is on the [committee](#), please let him or her know how you feel about the bill. We are not urging everyone to contact committee members, but **please contact your own senator to express your opinion**. Let them know that you think the Municipal Association should be controlled by its members.***

## Briefing on State Aid

On Tuesday NHMA briefed House Finance Division I on the recent trends in state aid to municipalities. Finance Division I is responsible for reviewing budgets of the agencies in which most of the state aid to municipalities is appropriated, including the State Treasury, Department of Environmental Services, and the Department of Revenue Administration. Our request to provide this briefing was based on two concerns: first, that state agencies do not necessarily focus on the municipal perspective when presenting their budgets to Division I, and second, that by reviewing state agency budgets individually, the committee would not get a comprehensive picture of the extent of state aid reductions over the past four years.

The goal for this briefing was not to advocate for restoration of, or increases in, any funding at this time, but to ensure that Division I committee members had a clear understanding of the extent of the reductions in revenue sharing, environmental grants, and retirement contributions, and the suspension of the meals and rooms tax growth formula. This briefing was based upon the information available on our website. Please click [here](#) (or go to NH Municipal Association/Ongoing Topics of Interest/State Budget/State Aid to Cities and Towns), and share the information there with each of your legislators.

## Changes to Trustees, Trust Funds and Capital Reserve Funds

**HB 297**, relative to the management of trust funds and capital reserve funds, is scheduled for a hearing before the House Municipal and County Government Committee on **Tuesday, February 5, at 11:00 a.m. in LOB room 301**. This bill makes a variety of changes to the laws governing trustees, trust funds, and capital reserve funds, including:

- Authorizing records to be maintained in electronic format;
- Requiring that maintenance and retention of records be in two location, one of which shall be offsite;
- Requiring that the reports and annual audit of the trustees be filed with the governing body in addition to the attorney general;
- Adding investment advisors licensed under RSA 421-B:7 to those authorized to provide banking and brokerage assistance to trustees;
- Requiring that realized capital gains and capital gain distributions earned on principal balances and income balances in trust funds be recognized as principal;
- Allowing investment management expenses for capital reserve funds to be charged against the annual income of the capital reserve funds; and
- Changing the dates when capital reserve fund appropriations must be transferred to the trustees of trust funds from December 31 to December 15 for calendar year municipalities, and from June 30 to June 15 for optional fiscal year municipalities.

## Rehiring Retirees For Part-Time Positions

**SB 132**, the first of several bills dealing with the number of hours an NHRS retiree may work in a part-time position for an NHRS employer, is scheduled for a hearing before the Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee on **Wednesday, February 6, at 9:30 a.m., in State House Room 100**. This bill removes the current limitation of “32 hours in each normal calendar week,” and replaces it with 1,600 hours in a calendar year, which equals an average of approximately 30 hours per week. That change should provide greater flexibility in terms of week-to-week scheduling demands. However, the bill leaves in the current language that applies the limit on hours during a calendar year to employment by “one or more employers.” Many employers have expressed concerns that it is difficult if not impossible to control, or even know about, the hours a part-time employee works for another NHRS employer.

**SB 132** also establishes a legislative study committee to review the use and efficacy of police special details; the committee would issue a report on or before November 1, 2013.

## HOUSE CALENDAR

### Joint House/Senate Meetings Are Listed Under This Section

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

#### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

- 10:30 a.m.      **HB 498**, permitting the use of firearms by military or veterans groups in the compact part of a town for military or veterans events, or national holidays.
- 2:30 p.m.      **HB 504**, relative to official oppression.

#### **ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB**

- 1:00 p.m.      **HB 287-FN**, eliminating voter identification requirements.

#### **LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 104, LOB**

- 9:00 a.m.      Subcommittee work session on **HB 178-FN-L**, relative to binding arbitration in public labor relations disputes.

#### **MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

- 10:00 a.m.      **HB 330-FN-L**, allowing counties to adopt a county income tax to be administered by the department of revenue administration.
- 11:00 a.m.      **HB 297**, relative to the management of trust funds and capital reserve funds.
- 1:15 p.m.      **HB 522**, relative to duties of town treasurers. **NHMA Policy.**
- 1:30 p.m.      **HB 506**, relative to certain time periods for adoption and amendment of town codes and ordinances. **NHMA Policy.**
- 1:45 p.m.      **HB 436**, relative to governance of town libraries.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, Room 201, LOB**

- 10:15 a.m.      **HB 550**, relative to the disposition of state-owned real estate.
- 1:00 p.m.      **HB 425**, relative to bridge aid and highway block grants for class V roads in certain village districts.



**House Calendar** - continued**RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT****Room 305, LOB**

- 10:45 a.m. **HB 397**, relative to state aid for wastewater and public water supply projects.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 513**, relative to the shoreland protection act.

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

- 11:00 a.m. **HB 332-FN-A-L**, relative to antique vessel registration.
- 11:30 a.m. **HB 383**, relative to operation of OHRVs on the traveled portion of public highways, where permitted.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7****COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, Room 302, LOB**

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 320-FN**, establishing a state bank.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY, Room 204, LOB**

- 1:00 p.m. **HB 442**, prohibiting residency restrictions for registered sex offenders and offenders against children.

**ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB**

- 10:30 a.m. **HB 412-FN**, relative to absentee voter applicant information.
- 11:00 a.m. **HB 448**, making changes to state representative districts.
- 11:30 a.m. **HB 466-FN**, relative to determining qualifications of voters.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 521**, establishing a committee to study New Hampshire election laws and procedures.

**FINANCE, Rooms 210-211, LOB**

- 11:00 a.m. **HB 623-FN-A**, appropriating funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible and completed drinking water, wastewater, and landfill closure projects under the state aid grant program. **NHMA Policy.**

**JUDICIARY, Room 208, LOB**

- 1:30 p.m. **HB 543**, relative to ascertaining damages to abutting landowners. **NHMA Policy.**
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 577-FN**, relative to responsibility for hazardous materials accidents.

**MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB**

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 429**, relative to service of writs against cities.
- 10:15 a.m. **HB 541**, relative to city charters.
- 10:45 a.m. **HB 422**, relative to the adoption, revision, and amendment of municipal charters. **NHMA Policy.**
- 11:15 a.m. **HB 593**, establishing a committee to study extending the due date for final property tax bills.
- 1:00 p.m. **HB 365**, relative to membership of village districts in regional planning commissions.
- 1:30 p.m. **HB 531**, allowing towns and cities to exempt farm buildings and structures from property taxation.
- 2:00 p.m. **HB 589**, relative to a selectman serving on the school board.

**House Calendar** - continued**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8****ASSESSING STANDARDS BOARD (RSA 21-J:14-a), Department of Revenue Administration, 109 Pleasant Street, Concord**

9:30 a.m. Regular meeting.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12****ELECTION LAW, Room 308, LOB**

10:00 a.m. **HB 595-FN**, relative to photo identification of voters.

**LABOR, INDUSTRIAL AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, Room 307, LOB**

10:15 a.m. **HB 350**, prohibiting discrimination against the unemployed.

11:00 a.m. **HB 357**, prohibiting an employer from using credit history in employment decisions.

2:00 p.m. **HB 414**, relative to privacy in the workplace.

2:05 p.m. **HB 379**, prohibiting an employer from requiring an employee or prospective employee to disclose his or her social media passwords.

**SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENERGY, Representatives Hall**

10:15 a.m. **HB 568**, requiring new electric transmission lines in New Hampshire to be buried.

11:00 a.m. **HB 569**, relative to the placement of all new electric transmission lines in New Hampshire.

2:00 p.m. **HB 449**, relative to the application process for a certificate for an energy facility.

**TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB**

2:00 p.m. **HB 567**, relative to identification of publicly owned vehicles.

**SENATE CALENDAR****TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5****WAYS AND MEANS, Room 103, SH**

9:00 a.m. **SB 43**, relative to the property taxation of qualifying historic buildings.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6****ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, Room 101, LOB**

9:00 a.m. **SB 101**, relative to collocation and modification of personal wireless services facilities.

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 100, SH**

9:30 a.m. **SB 132-FN**, relative to part-time employment in the retirement system and establishing a committee to study police special details.



**Senate Calendar** - continued**PUBLIC AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS, Room 102, LOB**

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 49**, relative to appeals of planning board decisions. **NHMA Policy.**
- 9:30 a.m. **SB 50**, relative to expiration of variances and special exceptions.
- 10:00 a.m. **SB 57**, relative to approval of the project proposed by the Town of Alstead for the lower Warren Brook Restoration project and reestablishes the commission established to determine the appropriate use of flood damaged property.
- 10:30 a.m. **SB 146-FN-L**, relative to aid to the permanently and totally disabled and old age assistance.
- 11:00 a.m. **SB 58**, relative to the taxation of water works or flood control land held in another town or city. **NHMA Policy.**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7****COMMERCE, Room 100, SH**

- 2:30 p.m. **SB 77**, instituting a state minimum hourly rate.

**ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, Room 101, LOB**

- 9:15 a.m. **SB 124-FN**, establishing an integrated land development permit.

**JUDICIARY, Room 100, SH**

- 10:15 a.m. **SB 108**, relative to the liability of landowners who permit use of their land for recreational activities.

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**NEW BILLS****House**

**HB 466-FN** eliminates the qualified voter and domicile affidavits and permits voters to prove qualifications by swearing to a statement on the voter registration form. Rep. Long of Manchester; **EL**.

**HB 473-FN** allows members of the university system police force to participate in the New Hampshire retirement system. Rep. D. Sullivan of Manchester; **ED&A-H**.

**HB 484-FN-LOCAL** allows the legislative bodies of affected municipalities to vote on whether to allow approval of an energy facility that is subject to the jurisdiction of the site evaluation committee. Rep. Kurk of Weare; **ST&E**.

**HB 498** allows the firing or discharge of a cannon, gun, pistol, or other firearm within the compact part of a town or city in connection with certain events conducted by U.S. armed forces personnel or military or veterans' groups. Rep. J. Belanger of Hollis; **CJ&PS**.

**HB 501-FN** establishes a state minimum wage of \$8.25 per hour. Rep. Horrigan of Durham; **LABOR**.

**New Bills** continued

[HB 504](#) revises the offense of official oppression by making it either a class B misdemeanor or a violation, depending on whether a public servant acted with a purpose to benefit oneself or another or to harm another. Rep. Itse of Fremont; **CJ&PS**.

[HB 506](#) extends the period permitted between the two public hearings required in certain towns for the adoption of codes and ordinances, and the period in which the selectmen may approve the ordinance after the second hearing. Rep. Daniels of Milford; **M&CG. NHMA Policy**.

[HB 507-FN](#) limits the maximum permit application fee for certain municipal dredging projects. Rep. Daniels of Milford; **RR&D**.

[HB 513](#) modifies several provisions of the shoreland protection act relative to minimum shoreland protection standards. Rep. Spang of Durham; **RR&D**.

[HB 516](#) establishes a committee to study the overlap of federal, state, and local regulation relative to environmental issues. Rep. Cebrowski of Bedford; **RR&D**.

[HB 517](#) makes permanent the municipal transfer station exemption from the ban on combustion of construction and demolition debris. Rep. Chandler of Bartlett; **ST&E. NHMA Policy**.

[HB 518](#) adds a notarized statement of service letter to the documents accepted to establish an individual's status as a veteran and provides that training for active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service for purposes of the veterans' tax credit. Rep. Baldasaro of Londonderry; **S-FR**.

[HB 521](#) establishes a committee to study New Hampshire election laws and procedures. Rep. Hoelzel of Raymond; **EL**.

[HB 522](#) allows the noncontemporaneous signing of a manifest by a majority of the board of selectmen. Rep. M. Mann of Deerfield; **M&CG. NHMA Policy**.

[HB 531](#) allows towns and cities to adopt a property tax exemption for farm buildings and structures, including the land footprint, actually and exclusively used for farming. Rep. Pastor of Lyme; **M&CG**.

[HB 532](#) makes changes in the laws governing energy efficiency and clean energy districts. Rep. Pastor of Lyme; **M&CG**.

[HB 541](#) provides that a city clerk shall be elected by the elected body of the city and requires that the city clerk be a resident of the city. Rep. Berube of Somersworth; **M&CG**.

[HB 543](#) establishes a procedure for ascertaining damages to private land when a highway is maintained or repaired in a manner that changes the grade or drainage of the property. Rep. Aguiar of Campton; **JUD-H. NHMA Policy**.

**New Bills** - continued

[HB 550](#) establishes a time period within which towns, cities, and counties must complete the purchase of state-owned land under RSA 4:40. Rep. Graham of Bedford; **PW**.

[HB 567](#) requires that certain publicly owned vehicles have markings that readily identify the agency using the vehicle. Rep. Theberge of Berlin; **TRANS-H**.

[HB 568](#) requires all new elective transmission lines in New Hampshire to be buried. Rep. Rappaport of Colebrook; **ST&E**.

[HB 569](#) requires that all electric transmission lines in the state of New Hampshire be placed within state transportation rights-of-way to the extent possible. Rep. Rappaport of Colebrook; **ST&E**.

[HB 577-FN](#) explains which party bears responsibility for costs associated with hazardous materials accidents. Rep. A. White of Lebanon; **JUD-H**.

[HB 581-FN-LOCAL](#) requires the attorney general to expedite the pursuit of monies owed to New Hampshire by Massachusetts for mitigation of flooding pursuant to two interstate compacts. Rep. Ratzki of Andover; **W&M-H**.

[HB 589](#) allows a town to vote to authorize the board of selectmen to appoint one selectman to serve on the school board as a voting member. Rep. Weyler of Kingston; **M&CG**.

[HB 591](#) prohibits abusive work environments for public employees. Rep. Schuett of Pembroke; **LABOR**.

[HB 593](#) establishes a committee to study extending the due date for final property tax bills. Rep. Tucker of Greenland; **M&CG**.

[HB 595-FN](#) repeals changes to laws requiring photo identification of voters scheduled to take effect September 1, 2013. Rep. Weber of Walpole; **EL**.

[HB 600-FN](#) modifies forms and procedures for voter registration and states that a person's claim of domicile in this state for voting purposes shall not be conclusive of the person's residence for any other legal purpose. Rep. Weber of Walpole; **EL**.

[HB 617-FN-A-LOCAL](#) establishes the New Hampshire state and municipal road and bridge account, increases the road toll over a 3-year period, increases the vehicle registration fee for certain classes of vehicles, and provides for adjustment in payments to municipalities for highway construction and reconstruction aid when such payments are based on estimated revenue. Rep. Campbell of Nashua; **PW**. **Includes NHMA Policy.**

**New Bills** - continued

[HB 619](#) prohibits the taking of images of a person's residence from the air by satellite, drone, or any device not supported by the ground. Rep. Kurk of Weare; **CJ&PS**.

[HB 620-FN-LOCAL](#) provides that contribution rates for members in the retirement system and employers shall be calculated by assigning one half of the biennial change to the liabilities of the system to each. Rep. Weyler of Kingston; **ED&A-H**.

[HB 623-FN-A](#) appropriates funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding state aid grant programs for water pollution control and public water systems. Rep. Buco of Conway; **F-H. NHMA Policy**.

[HB 627-FN](#) provides that at retirement the accrued but unused sick and vacation time of a retirement system member shall be converted to hours and applied as additional creditable service. Rep. D. McGuire of Epsom; **ED&A-H**.

**Senate**

[SB 80](#) allows towns and cities to add historic structures outside the town center or central business district to the community revitalization tax relief program in RSA 79-E. Sen. Watters of Dover; **W&M-S**.

[SB 90](#) establishes a committee to study developing a policy for giving preference to veterans in government hiring. Sen. Carson of Londonderry; **ED&A-S**.

[SB 101](#) provides for the collocation and modification of personal wireless facilities on existing structures, and provides for review of collocation and modification applications. Sen. Bradley of Wolfeboro; **ENR**.

[SB 102](#) allows a municipality to choose to elect, rather than appoint, members of the conservation commission. Sen. Bradley of Wolfeboro; **PMA**.

[SB 108](#) provides that landowners who permit the use of their land for outdoor recreational activities owe no duty of care to individuals engaged in the recreational activity, including to those engaged in the construction of facilities associated with the outdoor activity. Sen. Sanborn of Bedford; **JUD-S**.

[SB 111](#) permits a town that has adopted the official ballot referendum form of town meeting to adopt a capital reserve plan for a single project to be completed within a specified time, with specified amounts to be included in the default budget for the duration of that period. Sen. Bragdon of Milford; **PMA**.

[SB 121-FN-LOCAL](#) changes the distribution formula for meals and rooms tax revenue distributed to towns, cities, and unorganized places. Sen. Stiles of Hampton; **W&M-S**.

**New Bills** - continued

[SB 123-FN-LOCAL](#) dedicates certain proceeds from the regional greenhouse gas initiative (RGGI) program to municipal and local government energy efficiency projects. Sen. Stiles of Hampton; **ENR**.

[SB 124-FN](#) establishes an integrated permit process for applicants seeking one or more land development permits from the department of environmental services. Sen. Odell of Lempster; **ENR**.

[SB 128-FN-LOCAL](#) increases the portion of vital record fees retained by the town clerk and removes the requirement that a portion of the fees be deposited in the general fund. Sen. Boutin of Hooksett; **W&M-S**.

[SB 132-FN](#) changes the definition of part-time employment for purposes of membership in the retirement system and establishes a committee to study the use and efficacy of police special details. Sen. Bradley of Wolfeboro; **ED&A-S**.

[SB 146-FN-LOCAL](#) repeals the exclusivity of aid to the permanently and totally disabled and old age assistance. Sen. D'Allesandro of Manchester; **PMA**.

**FLOOR ACTION**

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

**HOUSE**

**HB 103-FN**, reducing the penalty for violating a local vendor ordinance. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 104**, amending certain requirements to obtain a local vendor license. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 105**, relative to the release of motor vehicle registration information. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 106**, relative to the demand for rent and other damages, and the repeal of the landlord-agent requirement. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 107**, relative to the losing party's payment of the prevailing party's costs in tort actions. **Inexpedient to Legislate**

**HB 108**, permitting manufactured housing parks and condominium associations to access dog registration records. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 109-FN-L**, repealing group licenses for dog owners. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**Floor Action** - continued

**HB 112-FN**, relative to registration permit fees for special use vehicles. **Ought to Pass with Amendment.**

**HB 113**, relative to lot access for erection of buildings. **Ought to Pass with Amendment.**

**HB 115**, relative to the procedure for filling a vacancy on a cooperative school district budget committee. **Ought to Pass.**

**HB 117**, relative to driveway permits issued by the department of transportation. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**HB 126-L**, relative to use of revolving funds by towns for maintaining recycling programs. **Ought to Pass.**

**HB 132-FN-L**, relative to responsibility for medical costs incurred by a person in custody. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

**SENATE**

**SB 2**, relative to the calculation of the local tax cap. **Ought to Pass with Amendment.**

**SB 40-FN-L**, relative to distribution of education funds for fiscal year 2013. **Ought to Pass.**



# 2013 Moderators Workshops

**SB 2 Meeting**  
**Saturday, January 19**  
(Snow date: Saturday, January 26)

**Traditional Town Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 23**  
(Snow date: Saturday, March 2)

**9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • Local Government Center, Concord, NH**  
**Cost: \$40**

Registration and continental breakfast begin at 8:30 a.m.  
Attendees will receive a copy of NHMA's 2013 edition *Town Meeting and School Meeting Handbook*.

## Topics include:

### **The Basic Law of Town, Village District and School District Meeting**

Statutes governing the moderator's duties at town, village district and school district meetings will be discussed along with issues related to warrant articles, the operating budget, secret ballot voting and other town meeting issues. This topic will be offered in two concurrent sessions tailored for new and experienced moderators. Ample time will be devoted to questions and answers.

### **Strategies for Running a Smooth Meeting**

Moderators are faced with a challenging task: keeping meetings focused and fair to all participants, while effectively facilitating the flow of debate. This session will highlight suggested strategies for running respectful and efficient meetings.

### **Sample Scenarios**

A series of sample scenarios will help attendees prepare for a wide range of meeting challenges.

### **Presenters:**

*Barrett M. Christina*, Staff Attorney, New Hampshire  
School Boards Association

*C. Christine Fillmore*, Staff Attorney, New Hampshire  
Municipal Association

*Paul G. Sanderson*, Staff Attorney, New Hampshire  
Municipal Association

**Register online today at**  
**[www.nhlgc.org/moderators](http://www.nhlgc.org/moderators)**

Space is limited. Questions?  
Call 800.852.3358, ext. 3350 or  
email [registrations@nhlgc.org](mailto:registrations@nhlgc.org).

