

BILL WATCH 2025

Updated 05/05/2025

Updates in RED

Bills scheduled for public hearings: use portal for House or Senate depending on body is conducting hearing. If a bill has had its public hearing but not a vote, email the whole committee. If the committee has voted, email the full body if it is scheduled for a floor vote. Pay attention to whether it was ITL (inexpedient to legislate) or OTP (ought to pass) as you will be voting on the committee recommendation.

Look Up a Bill: https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/quickSearch.aspx

House Testimony Portal: <https://gc.nh.gov/house/committees/remotetestimony/>

Senate Testimony Portal: <https://gc.nh.gov/remotecommittee/senate.aspx>

House Committee Addresses: <https://gc.nh.gov/house/committees/standingcommittees.aspx>

Senate Committee Addresses: https://gc.nh.gov/senate/committees/senate_committees.aspx

Full House Addresses: https://www.cnht.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/House_Only2025.xls

Full Senate Addresses: https://www.cnht.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Senate_Only2025.xls

68 Reps: <https://www.cnht.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/68Rep.xls>

Contact Governor: https://new-hampshire.my.salesforce-sites.com/support/GOV_Opinion

Email the Governor: KELLY.A.AYOTTE@GOVERNOR.NH.GOV

VOTING – ELECTION LAW

***SUPPORT CACR4** – Provides that only legal resident citizens who are at least 18 years of age or older who reside in the place they claim as a domicile shall be eligible voters.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_status/pdf.aspx?id=5305&q=billVersion

House Election Law: Retained in Committee Until Next Term. EMAIL Full Committee to OTP.

***SUPPORT SB44** - This bill requires a hand recount on the request of 100 registered voters in one city, town, or municipality using electronic ballot counting machines.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5822&q=billVersion

House Election Law Committee: Public Hearing: 04/22/2025 10:00 am LOB 306-308

***SUPPORT HB154** - This bill enables voters to request to have their ballots hand-counted

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=4703&q=billVersion

Senate Election Law Committee: Public Hearing: 04/29/2025, Room 103, LOB, 09:30 am; SC 19

***KILLED HB172** - This bill restricts undeclared voters from registering with a party on the same day of a primary in order to vote in a presidential or state primary election.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=4721&q=billVersion

KILLED BY HOUSE.

***SUPPORT HB289** - Prevents a person from claiming domicile if that person is a legal dependent of a person who does not live in New Hampshire. Clarifies that obtaining a driver's license or registering a motor vehicle is intent of maintaining continuous presence within New Hampshire.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5182&q=billVersion

House Election Law: RETAINED IN COMMITTEE - EMAIL Full Committee to OTP.

***SUPPORT HB323** - This bill requires the presentation of a government-issued photographic means of identification to vote. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5449&q=billVersion

House Election Law: RETAINED IN COMMITTEE - EMAIL Full Committee to OTP.

***YES HB385** - This bill reestablishes exceptions for the requirement to present identification to vote https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5898&q=billVersion

KILLED BY HOUSE

***KILLED HB600** - This bill enables procedures for ranked choice voting and allows municipalities to adopt such procedures. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6737&q=billVersion

KILLED BY HOUSE

***SUPPORT HB686** - Requires anyone who requests an absentee ballot to provide a copy of government issued photo identification alongside their absentee ballot application. Requires that absentee ballot applications be notarized. Requires a person to cure any errors in their application in person and prove their domicile to their city or town clerk. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7341&q=billVersion

House Election Law: RETAINED IN COMMITTEE - EMAIL Full Committee to OTP.

MUNICIPAL ISSUES – HOUSING and ZONING BILLS

***SUPPORT HB173** - This bill would maintain the purpose of a petitioned warrant article.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=4722&q=billVersion

Municipal and County Government: Retained in committee. EMAIL the Full Committee to OTP.

***SUPPORT HB228** – This bill authorizes written applications for a petitioned article at an annual or special town or school board meeting to identify a primary petitioner who shall be granted the same amount of time to introduce a petitioned article as is granted to the governing body or budget committee to introduce their warrant articles. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5119&q=billVersion

Senate Election Law Committee: EMAIL FULL COMMITTEE TO OTP.

***SUPPORT HB229** - This bill repeals the authority for non-charter towns, village districts, or counties with unincorporated places to adopt zoning ordinances through alternative procedures.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5120&q=billVersion

KILLED BY HOUSE

***OPPOSE HB471** – This bill establishes a commission to study solutions for growth, traffic, **planning, and land use** and is composed of representatives from 10 specified towns. Those towns include:

(1) Bedford, (2) Derry, (3) Goffstown, (4) Hooksett, (5) Hudson, (6) Litchfield, (7) Londonderry, (8) Merrimack, (9) Pelham, and (10) Windham

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6294&q=billVersion

KILLED BY HOUSE

***SUPPORT HB613** - This bill enables local political subdivisions that have adopted the official ballot referendum form of meeting to adopt provisions for an annual choice for a **reduced default budget**.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6751&q=billVersion

Senate Election Law Committee: EMAIL FULL COMMITTEE TO OTP.

HOUSING AND ZONING BILLSf

***OPPOSE SB55** - This bill provides temporary exemptions from the land use change tax for qualifying 382 housing projects. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6532&q=billVersion

KILLED

***OPPOSE SB78** - This bill removes the zoning board of adjustment's discretion for determining when to take an appeal and replaces it with a non-discretionary 30-day period.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7756&q=billVersion

House Municipal and County Government Committee: Public Hearing: 04/07/2025 10:55 am LOB 301-303 – USE THE HOUSE PORTAL TO ASK THEM TO ITL.

***OPPOSE SB81** - This bill increases the amount of annual real estate transfer tax revenues that are transferred to the affordable housing fund. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7761&q=billVersion

THIS BILL PASSED THE SENATE AND WAS LAID ON TABLE. KEEP WATCH FOR IT IN THE BUDGET BILL.

***OPPOSE SB84** - This bill sets maximum lot sizes for single-family residential uses based on the type of infrastructure servicing the lot. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7765&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB90** - This bill authorizes high-density residential development on commercially zoned land.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7774&q=billVersion

Senate Commerce: THIS BILL WAS RE-REFERRED TO COMMITTEE- EMAIL FULL COMMITTEE TO ITL

***OPPOSE SB163** - This bill prohibits municipalities from adopting new ordinances, regulations, or policies that establish moratoria or limitations on building permits or approvals for subdivisions and site plans, and repeals existing authority for temporary moratoria or limitations.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7892&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB174** - This bill prohibits planning boards from differentiating based on the number of bedrooms in a residential development during the hearing and approval process.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7939&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB175** - This bill grants municipalities the authority to enforce private covenants while prohibiting municipalities and state government from requiring or encouraging covenants as a condition of zoning or land use approval, with exceptions made for workforce housing developments.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7940&q=billVersion

Senate Commerce: THIS BILL WAS RE-REFERRED TO COMMITTEE- EMAIL FULL COMMITTEE TO ITL

***OPPOSE SB188** - Allows independent third-parties, hired by the property owner, to inspect land, buildings, and structures to determine compliance with state and local building codes and establishes private providers as an alternative to local enforcement agencies for conducting building code inspections and plan reviews.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=10414&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB231** - This bill adopts limits on road frontage requirements and setbacks for wetlands and lot lines to improve housing density, ensuring these requirements do not exceed 50 feet and are consistent with existing shoreland protection and environmental standards.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7880&q=billVersion

Senate Energy and Natural Resource Committee: THIS BILL WAS RE-REFERRED TO COMMITTEE - EMAIL FULL COMMITTEE TO ITL

***OPPOSE SB279** - Allows housing champion communities to participate in a business loan program administered by the business finance authority and makes an appropriation to fund such loans. Makes an appropriation to the department of business and economic affairs for deposit in the housing champion designation and grant program fund. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=7995&q=billVersion

LAI D ON TABLE

***OPPOSE SB281** - This bill changes the requirements that allow a building to be constructed on a lot adjacent to a class VI roadway. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=11330&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB282** - This bill allows residential buildings between 6 and 4 floors above grade to have only one stairway under certain conditions. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=11331&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***OPPOSE SB283** - This bill requires municipalities to exclude below-grade areas from floor-area-ratio (FAR) calculations and review and adjust height limitations as needed to maximize capacity and height potential for new construction.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=8004&q=billVersion

House Housing Committee: Email the full committee to ITL.

***NO SB284** - This bill limits residential parking spaces to one per unit, with exceptions for certain workforce housing and multi-family developments.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=8005&q=billVersion

PASSED – SEE WHO VOTED YES <https://www.cnht.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/92Reps.xlsx>

MORE HOUSING AND ZONING BILLS

***OPPOSE HB342** - This bill allows property owners to build on their property without seeking a variance for minimum lot size or lot coverage if the proposed building density conforms to that of the surrounding neighborhood, as verified by the local planning board.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5470&q=billVersion

Senate Commerce: Hearing Date: 04/15/2025, Room 100, SH, 09:45 am; SC 17 – USE THE SENATE PORTAL TO ASK TO ITL.

***OPPOSE HB382** - This bill eliminates the authority of municipalities to adopt or enforce regulations that mandate minimum parking requirements. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5895&q=billVersion

Senate Commerce: Public Hearing: 04/15/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:00 am; SC 17 – USE THE SENATE PORTAL TO ASK TO ITL

***OPPOSE HB572 - Title: (New Title) establishing the "partners in housing" program, an initiative under the housing champions fund to assist municipalities, counties, and developers in building workforce housing, and making an appropriation therefor.** This bill creates the "partners in housing" program, a low-interest loan and grant program under the housing champions fund to assist municipalities, counties, and developers in building modestly priced housing, and provides an additional \$10 million in funding for the housing champions fund. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6709&q=billVersion
House Finance: RETAINED IN COMMITTEE – NOW PLACED IN THE BUDGET BILL HB2 SECTION 330

***OPPOSE HB410** - This bill requires legislative bodies to utilize empirical, scientific evidence to support the adoption or imposition of any extraordinary restriction of residential property. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5924&q=billVersion
Senate Commerce: Hearing: 04/10/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:30 am; SC 16 – USE THE SENATE PORTAL TO ASK THEM TO ITL.

***SUPPORT HB457** - This bill prohibits the adoption and enforcement of any zoning ordinance that restricts the number of occupants of a dwelling unit to fewer than 2 occupants per bedroom. The bill also prohibits the adoption and enforcement of any zoning ordinance that discriminates based on familial, non-familial, or marital status. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6132&q=billVersion
Senate Commerce: EMAIL THE FULL COMMITTEE TO OTP.

***OPPOSE HB459** - This bill prohibits zoning ordinances regarding single-family residential uses from requiring larger acreage sizes than are necessary for community health and safety, given sewer infrastructure. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6134&q=billVersion
House Housing: RETAINED IN COMMITTEE - EMAIL Full Committee to ITL

***SUPPORT HB465** - This bill provides income verification requirements for housing opportunity zones. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6288&q=billVersion
House Housing: Retained in Committee. EMAIL the Full Committee to OTP.

***OPPOSE HB530** - Title: increasing the amount of revenue transferred from the real estate transfer tax to the affordable housing fund. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6492&q=billVersion
HOUSE REP SWEENEY LAID THIS ON TABLE SO THE FLOOR COULD NOT ITL IT and IT CAN COME BACK.

***OPPOSE HB577** - This bill expands accessory dwelling units by right to include detached units, adds definitions related to accessory dwelling units, and increases the maximum square footage. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6714&q=billVersion
EMAIL THE FULL SENATE IN ANTICIPATION OF FLOOR VOTE TO VOTE NO.

***OPPOSE HB631** - This bill allows multifamily or mixed-use developments as a permitted use by right in certain urban municipalities, outlines specific zoning regulations that cannot be imposed on such developments, and provides definitions for key terms. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=6835&q=billVersion
Senate Commerce: Hearing: 04/10/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:15 am; SC 16 – USE THE SENATE PORTAL TO ASK THEM TO ITL.

***OPPOSE HB633** - Creates a legislative study committee to investigate the implementation of housing investment trusts in New Hampshire. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/billinfo.aspx?id=692&inflect=2
Senate Commerce: Public Hearing: 04/29/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:00 am; SC 19

***NO HB685** - This bill updates the definition of manufactured housing, (mobile homes!) and establishes the requirement that manufactured housing must be permitted in all residential zoned areas within every municipality in the state, overriding any local zoning ordinances that prohibit or unreasonably restrict its placement. (modular homes, trailers?) https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=10279&q=billVersion
SENATE FLOOR VOTE MAY 8, 2025 – EMAIL FULL SENATE TO VOTE NO.

ARTICLE V CONVENTION

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

<https://gc.nh.gov/house/committees/links.aspx?x=3&id=16>

***NO HCR3** - This resolution **applies** for a convention of the states under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=4660&q=billVersion

LAID ON TABLE with PENDING OTP. WATCH

***NO HCR5** - This concurrent resolution **rescinds** the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution 40 passed on May 31, 2012 which is an application to the congress of the United States of America to call a convention pursuant to the terms of Article V of the United States Constitution.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5306&q=billVersion

LAID ON TABLE with PENDING ITL. WATCH

***NO HB264** - This bill makes it a class B felony for a delegate to a convention called under Article V of the United States Constitution to support or approve proposing an amendment not authorized by the legislature.

https://gc.nh.gov/bill_Status/pdf.aspx?id=5157&q=billVersion

State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs: **LAID ON TABLE with PENDING OTP. WATCH**

Bill: HB342 - Title: relative to the approval process for new construction.

Hearing: 05/06/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:20 am; SC 20

Bill: HB457 - Title: (New Title) relative to the occupancy of housing units.

Hearing: 05/06/2025, Room 100, SH, 10:30 am; SC 20

Bill: SB78 - Title: relative to the zoning board of adjustments appeal period.

Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2025-1713h 04/28/2025 (Vote 18-0; CC)

Bill: SB284 - Title: relative to the required maximum number of residential parking spaces.

Removed from Consent (Reps. Panek, Turcotte, Nelson, Perez, Flanagan, Rice, Coker, Ankarberg, Tenczar, L. Walsh) 04/25/2025

Bill: SB284 - Title: (New Title) relative to authority for municipalities to regulate mandatory on-site parking requirements.

Amendment # 2025-1556h (NT): AA VV 05/01/2025 HJ 13

Bill: SB284 - Title: (New Title) relative to authority for municipalities to regulate mandatory on-site parking requirements.

Ought to Pass with Amendment 2025-1556h: MA RC 197-144 05/01/2025 HJ 13