

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

House Supports Partial Restoration of State Retirement Contribution!

Bulletin 08 - 2017 Session
February 17, 2017

By a **very strong vote** of [267-83](#), the House on Wednesday passed [HB 413](#), which now moves on to the House Finance Committee. **HB 413** reinstates a partial state retirement contribution for teachers, police officers, and fire-fighters at 15% of the total cost. The state contributed 35% of these costs for decades until the legislature repealed the cost-sharing provision in 2012.

Local officials across New Hampshire have said that the repeal of the 35% contribution was the single largest financial hit they have suffered at the hands of the state. The 15% state contribution provided by **HB 413** will save local governments (municipalities, counties, and school districts) **over \$40 million per year**. See the article in [Bulletin No. 5](#) for more information.

The Finance Committee will take the *policy position* established by **HB 413** and work on the financing end of the proposal. Ultimately, funding to restore a state contribution—at 15% or at any level—will need to be included in the budget. As you know, we have a loooong way to go before the budget is complete.

Thank you to all local officials who contacted your representatives—we would not have seen such a strong House vote without your engagement! We will need your continued support throughout this budget process, so stay tuned.

Please thank your representatives who voted in favor of the Ought to Pass recommendation, but let them know the work is not done!

House Kills RTK Attorney Fee Bill

In another major victory for municipalities, the House on Thursday killed [HB 365](#), the bill that would have awarded attorney fees to a prevailing plaintiff in any claim under the Right-to-Know Law, even when the public officials had no reason to know they were violating the law. The House first rejected the Judiciary Committee’s Ought to Pass recommendation by a slim margin, 184-187, then approved an Inexpedient to Legislate motion, 207-166.

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[Here is the roll call](#) on the Ought to Pass motion. Representatives who voted “nay” were voting against the bill. The vote certainly was closer than it should have been, but it is difficult to overturn a committee recommendation, so a slim victory is still a big one. ***Please thank your legislators who voted “nay.”*** As for those who voted “yea,” you may want to have a talk with them.

And thank you to the many local officials who contacted your legislators about this bill. With a three-vote margin, it is obvious that your efforts made the difference.

Retirement Costs on Part-Time Employees

HB 561 is one of several retirement-related bills in the House Executive Departments and Administration Committee dealing with the issue of retirees returning to work for a New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) employer. The original bill does several things, the most important of which are: suspends a retiree’s benefits if part-time work exceeds the statutory limit of 32 hours per week or 1,300 hours per calendar year; authorizes NHRS to assess a penalty on the employer amount if the employer knew or should have known that the hours were exceeded; and requires the employer to pay the unfunded accrued liability portion of the NHRS contribution rate on compensation paid to any NHRS retiree working part-time for that employer.

Besides putting some “teeth” into the statutory limits on hours, the intent of the bill is to force employers to pay more toward the unfunded liability (which was \$5 billion as of June 30, 2016) in an effort to shorten the 23 years remaining in the statutory amortization period, and to curb what some consider to be an unacceptable practice of employers re-employing retirees in part-time positions. Supporters of the bill insist these provisions are necessary to preserve the fiscal integrity of the NHRS and to ensure fairness among participating employers, despite NHRS officials’ statements that, from a financial perspective, there are “no material implications” due to so-called double-dipping.

HB 561 was referred to a subcommittee, which is proposing several changes to the original bill. The most significant change would require employers to pay the unfunded liability portion of the employer rates on part-time employees (1) when an employer converts or replaces a full-time position with one or more part-time positions within 12 months of a position becoming vacant, or (2) when an employer fills a full-time position with an interim, temporary, or part-time employee within 12 months. Both requirements would apply to anyone filling the position, not just a retiree, even though these employees would not accrue any NHRS benefits (or any further benefits in the case of a retiree).

THE EDGE

Gerry who?

There are several bills in the legislature this year dealing with redistricting—the process whereby legislative districts are redrawn after each decennial census. Historically, the electoral map has been drawn by the legislature, but two bills this year have proposed giving the job to an independent redistricting commission (which NHMA has supported based on a legislative policy adopted by our members), while a third proposes using a computer algorithm to create the districts.

A word that always comes up in these discussions is “gerrymander.” Complaints of “gerrymandering” typically come from the party out of power when there is an appearance that the party in power has redrawn the districts into unnatural configurations to ensure an electoral advantage for itself.

We’ve all heard the word, but have you ever wondered where it comes from? (If not, you may need a curiosity transplant.)

The word comes from Elbridge Gerry, who, as you probably know, was the fifth Vice President of the United States, serving during James Madison’s second term, until he died about 20 months into his term. (As an aside, although “gerrymander” is pronounced with a soft “g,”

Continued on next page

NHMA raised a number of concerns about the bill, highlighting the fact that employers change positions from full-time to part-time for a number of reasons that have nothing to do with NHRS participation. For example, many municipal employers weathered the previous recession by converting full-time positions to part-time through attrition. Under **HB 561**, those part-time positions would now cost significantly more money. Particularly in the case of teachers, decreases in the number of students in many school districts will dictate the need to reduce staff, such as converting a full-time language teacher to part-time. Employers looking to consolidate departments or streamline operations in this manner would be penalized under **HB 561**.

Another frustrating aspect is that the NHRS actuaries have already taken into account the population trends for the various categories of active NHRS participants, with the number of full-time police and firefighters holding steady over the past five years rather than declining as some insist has happened. In the case of teachers, the employer retirement rates recently increased in part to reflect the fact that there will be fewer teachers in the system in coming years due to declining student enrollment.

The unfunded liability portion of the retirement contributions that employers would have to pay for part-time employees under **HB 561** is 8.92 percent for employees, 13.63 percent for teachers, 19.66 percent for police, and 20.74 percent for firefighters. NHMA requested that the bill be prospective only, meaning it would only apply to personnel changes made after July 1, 2017.

The subcommittee has another meeting scheduled next Tuesday afternoon, at which time the final version of the bill will likely be decided. The amended version will then go to the full committee for consideration on **Thursday at 2:30 p.m. in LOB Room 305**. Some committee members believe the provisions of **HB 561** will apply in very few cases. If you believe otherwise or have additional concerns, please contact members of the [Executive Departments and Administration Committee](#) before next Thursday. Let us know of your concerns, too!

Can the State Do Anything About Local Property Taxes?

We have heard several times in recent weeks that there is really nothing the State can do to help lower local property taxes. We respectfully beg to differ.

The state and local governments cooperate to serve the needs of all New Hampshire residents — and visitors. What do we do at the local

THE EDGE (Continued)

as in “Jerry,” Mr. Gerry pronounced his last name with a hard “g,” like “Gary.”) But his “gerrymandering” fame comes from something he did in his previous job as Governor of Massachusetts.

In 1812, the two major political parties were the Democratic-Republicans and the Federalists. Governor Gerry was a Democratic-Republican, and his party also controlled the Massachusetts state legislature.

The legislature that year redrew the electoral districts into some strange shapes, apparently intended to enhance the party’s existing advantage. Although Governor Gerry was not personally responsible for the new map, he signed the law that created it, and thus was forever associated with the concept.

That explains the “gerry” part, but what about the “mander”? Well, a political cartoon in a Federalist newspaper compared the shape of one of the districts to a salamander and thus called it a “Gerry-mander.”

More than two centuries later, the unfortunate Mr. Gerry is remembered primarily for that one action. This should serve as a perpetual warning to anyone who may be inclined to create amphibian-shaped legislative districts.



level? We provide a clean water supply and wastewater treatment facilities; we conduct state and local elections and maintain voter checklists; we operate schools; we maintain county jails for miscreants and provide county nursing homes for our aged and infirm; we maintain miles of roads—in summer and winter—for commuters, commerce, and tourists; our police officers enforce state laws; our firefighters respond to any number of emergency situations; we provide solid waste disposal services; we perform property tax assessing and administration for the state education property tax and for local taxes; we deliver recreation, library, animal control, health officer, and local welfare services; and in the end, we provide and maintain cemeteries for the departed. These services, and more, serve the state's entire population, and many are provided solely or primarily with local property tax dollars. So what can the state do to help lower the burden of the local property tax?

The state has been a partner with municipalities in a number of different “revenue sharing” and cost sharing programs, but the state is no longer meeting its funding obligations for many of them. Obviously, reductions in state aid to local governments result in increased property tax rates—even with level-funded budgets.

What can the state do to help with local property taxes?

- **Share the meals and rooms tax revenues with municipalities at the statutorily required rate of 40%**—a percentage set forth when the meals and rooms tax was enacted *50 years ago*, in 1967. Municipalities have never reached the 40% level, which is why a catch-up formula was adopted in 1993, to increase the local share until the percentage reached 40%. That worked well until the catch-up formula was suspended: **cumulatively, the suspension of the meals and rooms tax catch-up formula has resulted in a loss to municipalities of approximately \$58 million from 2010 to 2017.**
- **Restore revenue sharing.** State tax reform measures in 1969 eliminated a number of local taxes. To protect municipalities from the resulting reduction in their tax base, the legislature adopted a policy “to return a certain portion of the general revenues of the state to the cities and towns for their unrestricted use.” In 1970, the revenue sharing from this state tax reform program was to increase by 10% each year, but that was reduced to 5% the following year, with more reductions to follow. In 1999, the adequate education formula earmarked some of the revenue sharing funds to schools, leaving municipalities with \$25 million annually. **In 2010, revenue sharing was suspended; it has remained suspended ever since—a cumulative loss of \$200 million to date.**
- **Restore the state's 35% contribution toward the retirement costs of police officers, firefighters, and teachers—all of whom must participate in the NHRS.** We have written extensively about this issue in recent *Legislative Bulletins* in relation to **HB 413**, and we refer you to those articles for more information. **If the state had continued its 35% contribution, municipalities, school districts, and counties would have paid approximately \$80 million less in pension costs in 2016 alone.**
- **Fully fund the state aid grant (SAG) program for municipal water and waste water treatment facility updates, which was suspended in 2008 and remains underfunded.** Many of these facilities were built in the 1950s and 1960s, and modifications are often required to meet new federal regulations. Municipalities work with DES to plan for the construction

and financing of these costly projects, but state funding doesn't kick in until the projects are completed and the bond repayments start. The 2008 moratorium left many municipalities unexpectedly holding the bag for the state share of bond repayments. While funding has been restored for many of those affected projects, others still await a state appropriation. **Most disturbing at this point is that there is no funding available for any projects approved locally after December of 2008. As of the end of 2016, there are 50 local wastewater projects that would qualify for \$90 million in state aid over the next 10 years if the moratorium were lifted.**

- **Double the funding for municipal red-listed bridges.** Bridge aid was supposed to double when the state increased the gas tax in 2014, with a goal to reduce the unreasonable 10-year wait list for state bridge aid. Bridge aid did double in 2015, allowing repair/replacement of twice as many red-listed bridges, but the doubling provision was eliminated just one year later. There were 338 municipal red-listed bridges as of June 2016, affecting commerce, citizens, and the state's economy.
- **Maintain highway block grant funding.** Here, finally, is a program that is working as promised! Municipalities receive 12% of the gas tax revenue and state motor vehicle fees. With the 2014 increase in the gas tax, which NHMA supported, an additional \$4 million has been returned annually to cities and towns for the maintenance and improvement of local roads.

See NHMA's publication [*State Aid to Municipalities: History & Trends*](#) for more information about all of these programs and the reductions in state aid.

The numbers tell it all: since 2008 there has been a significant reduction in virtually every state aid program to municipalities, reductions of such magnitude that they could never be offset by local spending reductions.

So—can the state do anything about local property taxes? YES—all it needs to do is to stand by its promises to municipalities. All it needs to do is to recognize and respect the partnership that the state and municipalities share in the everyday life of citizens and the economy of the state. Strong cities and towns, and strong local economies, make for a strong state.

Well Bill Watered Down

Last week we wrote about an alarming bill, [**SB 240**](#), that would have required a public water system to establish a connection to the owner of a contaminated well under certain circumstances. As we indicated, the potential cost to municipalities would be in the tens of millions of dollars. But we also stated that this did not seem to be what the sponsors really had in mind.

And it was not. At the hearing this week, an amendment from the prime sponsor was introduced. The amendment completely rewrites the bill and provides, in short, that someone who causes a well to become contaminated is responsible for providing treatment or an alternative supply of drinking water. Municipalities should not be affected (unless they are responsible for contaminating wells). If the bill goes forward, it will be in some form much closer to the amendment, so there is no cause for continuing concern.

Transportation Improvement Fee

On Tuesday, the House Municipal and County Government Committee recommended ought to pass by a vote of 19-1 on [HB 121](#), the **NHMA policy bill** that would increase from \$5 to \$10 the maximum fee that a municipality may collect annually for its transportation improvement fund. As we reported in [last week's Bulletin](#), this fee, and the use of the money raised by the fee, are determined by the local legislative body (*i.e.*, town meeting or city council/board of aldermen), which decides whether to pay for road improvements, bridge repairs, public transportation services for the elderly and disabled, sidewalks, and bike paths with property tax dollars or with this user fee. **HB 121** does not raise any fee or tax; it merely lets the local legislative body—*i.e.*, the voters, in most cases—decide how much of a fee (if any) they want to charge.

We thank the members of the Municipal and County Government Committee for supporting **HB 121** and the local control option that it provides. **HB 121** is on the consent calendar for the next House session.

Semi-Trailer Registration Fees Head to Second Committee

On Wednesday, by a voice vote, the House supported the 9-7 Transportation Committee recommendation of Ought to Pass on [HB 579](#), dealing with registrations of out-of-state semi-trailers by non-governmental agents. During floor discussion, the question was asked whether municipalities would lose money if the bill passed – a concern expressed by the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Association, the New Hampshire Tax Collectors Association, and NHMA. An opponent of the bill replied “yes” while a supporter of the bill indicated “there are no guarantees” municipalities would not lose money. The bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee where concerns about the potential loss of municipal revenue will be addressed further.

Municipal Bills in Senate

The Senate Public and Municipal Affairs Committee considered and voted on a number of bills this week. The committee voted the following bills *Inexpedient to Legislate*, and all of them are on the calendar for action by the full Senate next week:

- **Amendment of petitioned warrant articles.** [SB 19](#) provides that no petitioned town meeting warrant article that has been submitted to the Department of Revenue Administration may be amended. The ITL vote was unanimous.
- **Increased veterans' credit.** [SB 168](#) would increase from \$500 to \$1,000 the maximum amount that a municipality may adopt for the optional veterans' credit. Members were concerned about the unknown impact of the bill, especially in light of last year's enactment of the “all veterans' tax credit,” which a number of municipalities are currently considering. The ITL vote was unanimous.
- **Perambulation.** [SB 171](#) is an **NHMA policy bill** that would repeal the archaic requirement that selectmen perambulate their boundaries every seven years. The ITL vote was 3-2, with the three Republicans on the committee voting for the motion and the two Democrats voting against. The committee did not explain why New Hampshire needs a perambulation requirement when 49 other states seem to be doing just fine without one, or why perambulation of

the state boundaries is required “whenever necessary,” while perambulation of municipal boundaries must be done every seven years, whether necessary or not. ***We encourage the Senate to overturn the committee recommendation and pass SB 171.***

- ***Short-term rental of ADUs.*** [SB 173](#) as introduced provides that an accessory dwelling unit may not be used as a short-term rental, although a proposed amendment would have clarified it to provide that a *municipality* may prohibit such use. The ITL vote was 3-2, on the same party line.

The committee also considered a few other bills:

Agritourism. The committee voted unanimously to recommend “re-referral” on [SB 169](#), which would redefine “agritourism,” significantly altering a law that was enacted last year. Among other things, the bill would delete the provision in the existing law that limits the definition of agritourism to “events and activities that are accessory uses to the primary farm operation.” As a result, any number of events and activities—serving meals, providing overnight accommodations, hosting weddings and similar functions—would qualify as agritourism even if they substantially dwarf the farming activities, and municipalities would have limited authority to regulate them. NHMA has opposed the bill. Re-referral is not quite the same as killing the bill, but close enough.

Bonding for broadband. The committee seemed poised to vote against [SB 170](#), an **NHMA policy bill** that authorizes municipalities to issue bonds for broadband infrastructure, but that vote was deferred when the bill’s sponsor offered an amendment. The amendment states that a bond may be issued for broadband infrastructure “when operation or maintenance is open to a competitive proposal process that allows commercial broadband providers to contract with the municipality for services.”

This addresses the telecommunications industry’s longstanding objection that municipalities do not know how to operate a broadband network and should not be allowed to compete with private industry. Under the amendment, the municipality would *not* be operating a network or competing with private industry—it would merely be providing the infrastructure to allow a private company to provide the service. That ought to eliminate industry opposition to the bill. Will it? We’ll see.

The committee is likely to take up [SB 170](#) again next Wednesday, February 22. Please urge [committee members](#) to **support SB 170** with the proposed amendment.

Municipal Bills in House

The House Municipal and County Government Committee also dealt with a number of bills this week, in addition to **HB 121**, discussed above. Here are the highlights:

- ***Property taxes on manufactured housing.*** The committee retained [HB 565](#), which would establish a process for municipalities to escrow property taxes on manufactured housing if the owner has become delinquent. (In the House, a committee can retain a bill on its own, without approval of the full House.)

- **Accessory dwelling units.** The committee voted Ought to Pass with Amendment, 19-1, on **HB 265**, relative to accessory dwelling units. [The amended version](#) provides that a municipality is not required to allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) “associated with multiple single-family dwellings attached to each other such as townhouses, [or] with manufactured housing.” It also prohibits subsequent condominium conveyance of an ADU unless allowed by the municipality.
- **Commercial and industrial construction exemption.** The committee unanimously recommended [HB 316](#) as Ought to Pass. The bill allows any municipality to adopt a “new construction property tax exemption for commercial or industrial uses, or both.” The exemption would be “a specified percentage on an annual basis of the increase in assessed value attributable to construction of new structures, and additions, renovations, or improvements to existing structures,” not to exceed 50 percent per year, and for a maximum of ten years following the new construction. The exemption is similar (but not identical) to one that has been authorized for municipalities in Coos County since 2008.
- **Fluoridation.** The committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate, 19-1, on [HB 585](#), which would prohibit fluoridation in public water supplies.
- **Tax exemption for leased charter schools.** The committee voted 18-2 to recommend [HB 419](#) as Inexpedient to Legislate. NHMA has opposed the bill, which would grant a refund to any chartered public school that leases property from a non-exempt owner, in the amount of the property taxes attributable to the charter school. Under current law, both the exemption for political subdivisions (such as school districts) and the exemption for private schools are available only when the exempt entity owns and occupies the property. **HB 419** would treat charter schools differently from other public and private schools, effectively granting an exemption when the school occupies but does not own the property. Current law does give municipalities the option to assess property at 10 percent of market value if it is leased to a chartered public school.

HOUSE CALENDAR

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION, Room 104, LOB

11:45 a.m. **HB 394**, relative to public employees testifying before legislative committees.

MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY GOVERNMENT, Room 301, LOB

10:00 a.m. Continued public hearing on **HB 182**, relative to the adoption of a default budget.

1:00 p.m. **HB 173**, relative to regulations restricting the use of water for outdoor usage.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2017

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Rooms 305-307, LOB

**Please Note Room Change

1:15 p.m. **HB 548-FN**, increasing the age at which a pension begins for non-vested and newly-hired group I members of the retirement system.

2:30 p.m. **HB 323**, relative to powers and duties of the assessing standards board.

(House Calendar — Continued from Page 8)

TRANSPORTATION, Room 203, LOB

- 10:00 a.m. **HB 432**, relative to enforcement of parking prohibitions.
10:30 a.m. **HB 492**, relative to motorized scooters and wheelchairs operating on public streets.
11:00 a.m. **HB 648-FN**, relative to van parking for persons with disabilities.
3:00 p.m. **HB 577-FN**, relative to number plate scanning devices.

SENATE CALENDAR

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

ELECTION LAW AND INTERNAL AFFAIRS, Room 102, LOB

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 113**, relative to an electronic poll book trial program. **NHMA Policy.**

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Room 101, LOB

- 1:00 p.m. **SB 247-FN-A**, preventing childhood lead poisoning from paint and water and making an appropriation to a special fund.
2:00 p.m. **SB 236-FN**, making the Medicaid expansion law permanent.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2017

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION, Room 101, LOB

- 9:50 a.m. **SB 140**, relative to the independent investment committee in the New Hampshire retirement system.

WAYS AND MEANS, Room 100, SH

- 9:00 a.m. **SB 208-FN**, establishing a working families property tax refund program.

HOUSE FLOOR ACTION

Wednesday, February 15, 2016

Thursday, February 16, 2017

HB 88-FN, relative to the motor vehicle registration fees for disabled veterans. **Passed.**

HB 97-FN, relative to the use of drones. **Passed with Amendment; referred to CJ&PS.**

HB 101-FN, relative to certification for solid waste operators. **Passed; referred to ED&A-H.**

HB 117, relative to the property tax exemption for improvements to assist persons with disabilities. **Passed with Amendment.**

HB 171, prohibiting the state or its political subdivisions from assisting a federal agency in the collection of electronic data without a warrant. **Passed; referred to CJ&PS.**

HB 203-FN-A, establishing an independent redistricting commission. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 212-FN-LOCAL, relative to police attendance at public meetings and functions. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

(House Floor Action — Continued from Page 9)

HB 218, relative to activities at polling places. **Passed with Amendment.**

HB 223, prohibiting recipients of county or municipal funds from using such funds for lobbying. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 230, relative to the referendum procedure for public water systems. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 235, allowing the use of an assisted living facility photo identification card for voter identification purposes. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 238, establishing a committee to study broadband access to the Internet. **Passed.**

HB 239, establishing a committee to study reducing the cost of county government. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 258, relative to the submission and approval of subsurface sewage disposal system plans. **Passed.**

HB 328, relative to taxation of public utility infrastructure. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 346, relative to the payment of wages to an employee. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 350-FN, prohibiting possession of a firearm at a polling place. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 354-FN-A-LOCAL, making an appropriation to the department of education to provide additional adequate education grant payments to certain municipalities. **Passed with Amendment; referred to F-H.**

HB 357-FN-LOCAL, relative to the appraisal of telecommunications poles and conduits under local property taxation. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 365-FN, relative to awarding attorney's fees under the right-to-know law. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 380-FN, relative to the oil discharge and disposal cleanup fund. **Passed; referred to W&M-H.**

HB 389, relative to voters with physical disabilities. **Passed.**

HB 390, relative to parties on certain election forms and ballots and relative to the voter registration form used on the day of the general election. **Passed.**

HB 405, adding a duty to the decennial retirement commission. **Passed with Amendment.**

HB 413-FN-A-LOCAL, relative to payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers. **Passed; referred to F-H.**

(House Floor Action — Continued from Page 10)

HB 415-FN-A-LOCAL, reducing business taxes, repealing certain taxes, establishing an income tax, and requiring payment by the state of a portion of retirement system contributions of political subdivision employers. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 446, relative to state construction contracts. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 453, relative to vacancies in the office of supervisor of the checklist. **Passed.**

HB 470-FN-LOCAL, relative to storm water or sewage penalties. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 489, establishing a commission to study the tax structure of the state. **Passed with Amendment.**

HB 507, establishing a committee to study the responsibility of a person who through their pollution makes drinking water non-potable. **Passed.**

HB 528-FN, establishing a municipal opioid reversal agent bulk purchase fund. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 532-FN, prohibiting persons who desecrate the American or New Hampshire state flag from receiving financial assistance. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 547-FN, relative to the recycling and disposal of electronic waste. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 566-FN-LOCAL, repealing the community revitalization tax relief incentive. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 568-FN, relative to the taxability of lease interests in public property. **Passed; referred to W&M-H.**

HB 570-FN, relative to car and truck rental agency fleet vehicle registration. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 579-FN, relative to registration of semi-trailers. **Passed; referred to W&M-H.**

HB 588-FN, relative to voter identification requirements. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 621-FN-A-LOCAL, establishing a road usage fee and making an appropriation therefor. **Tabled.**

HB 643-FN-A, mandating the wearing of body cameras by certain law enforcement officers. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

HB 644-FN-A-LOCAL, extending the interest and dividends tax to capital gains, increasing exemptions from the tax, and providing for retirement system contributions on behalf of employers other than the state. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

(House Floor Action— Continued from Page 11)

HB 654-FN, relative to short-term and vacation rentals under the meals and rooms tax. **Passed with Amendment; referred to W&M-H.**

SB 11-FN, prohibiting collective bargaining agreements that require employees to join or contribute to a labor union. **Inexpedient to Legislate; Indefinitely Postponed.**

SENATE FLOOR ACTION

Thursday, February 16, 2017

SB 14, relative to the use of amber lights by plow operators. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

SB 34, relative to recovery of costs for damage done to highways. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

SB 90-FN, adjusting the minimum employer's contribution rate for unemployment insurance. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

SB 180-FN, including low digit number plates as vanity plates. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

SB 182, relative to meals and rooms tax annual revenue reporting by the department of revenue administration. **Inexpedient to Legislate.**

SB 201-FN, relative to providing pamphlets containing the asbestos regulations to persons engaging in renovation or demolition of structures. **Passed.**

Upcoming Events for NHMA Members

Postponed (from Feb. 11) to Saturday, February 25, 2017

Moderator's Workshop for Traditional Town Meeting

Please visit our [website](#) for upcoming NHMA events.

See **CALENDAR OF EVENTS** on the left and click *View the Full Calendar*; scroll down to the event you are interested in to register.