

NH Legislative Activity

Peer Alliance Survey Priorities

HB House Bill **SB** Senate Bill

Accessibility

HB1582-FN (Law) Providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled; programs to aid veterans' access to employment, housing, healthcare and college degrees; educational assistance for members of the NH National Guard; tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship and prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veterans status.

Discrimination

HB383 Prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, race, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, religion, creed or national origin in any public school, non-public school or approved school tuition program;

SB455 Prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veteran status; and

SB515 Establishing requirements for school-district, discrimination-prevention policies.

Funding

HB1513 Requiring the Commissioner of the Department of Health & Human Services to study the conversion of the Medicaid program to block grant funding and making an appropriation therefor;

HB1558-FN Addressing students' behavioral needs and making an appropriation therefor; kindergarten funding; violence in schools; policies for students with head injuries; child sexual abuse prevention and training; authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes by a municipality; adding the Chancellor of the University System of NH to the Department of Business and Economic Affairs Council of Partner Agencies; change of school or assignment due to manifest educational hardship; school board expenditure of year-end fund balances; a children's system of care; student wellness and criminal background checks for bus drivers; and

SB558 (Law) Extending the reporting date of the commission to study school funding.

Housing & Housing Assistance

HB130-L (Law) Establishing property tax relief for totally and permanently-disabled veterans;

HB1151 Requiring insurers to use the home replacement basis of the municipality's assessed value of the building and cost of debris removal when setting rates for homeowner's insurance;

HB1197 Exempting disabled veterans from the payment of property taxes;

HB1248-L Enabling municipalities to offer community revitalization tax incentives for the construction of additional housing in designated areas. The bill also revises the criteria for assistance from the affordable housing fund administered by the housing finance authority;

HB1317-FN Establishing funding for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects by residential, commercial and industrial ratepayers;

HB1320 Requires landlords of residential property to include in the rental agreement a statement on the purchase of renter's insurance by the tenant;

HB1342-FN-A Establishing a program for installation of heat pumps for low-income housing;

HB1391-FN Prohibiting discrimination in housing against persons with pets;

HB1488 Prohibiting conditioning of employment or student enrollment on approved housing;

HB1582-FN Providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled; programs to aid veterans' access to employment, housing, healthcare

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	and college degrees; educational assistance for members of the NH National Guard; tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship and prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veterans status;
HB1632-FN-A	Concerning financial investments and incentives for affordable housing development;
SB15-FN-A	Making an appropriation to the affordable housing fund;
SB475	Enabling municipalities to adopt a property tax credit for densely-built workforce housing;
SB518	Enabling group-host, net-energy metering for low-income community solar projects, limited electrical energy producers' storage systems and private-sector sales, outdoor lighting policies and aggregation of electric-utility customers;
SB256-FN	Requiring that senior housing receiving any state, county, or federal funding be equipped with emergency power generator service in a common area;
SB487	Repealing the housing appeals board and establishing a commission to advance affordable housing in New Hampshire;
SB536	Requiring an annual report of the housing appeals board;
SB633	Requiring the Department of Health & Human Services to adopt rules relative to the voluntary registration and certification of recovery housing;
SB638-FN	Establishing the NH housing and conservation planning program and
SB726-FN	Requiring programs to aid veterans' access to employment, entrepreneurship, housing, health care and college degrees; and
SB735-FN	Repealing the housing appeals board.

Peer Alliance Survey Results: Information of Interest

Affordable Options

Free Peer Support Agencies (PSAs) are Free! Visit dhhs.nh.gov and search for “Peer Support” to find the list of peer support agencies around the State of NH.

Community Services

CMHCs Many Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) offer Open Access, which enables you to schedule appointments much earlier than you could in the past and be seen sooner. Visit dhhs.nh.gov and search for “Community Mental Health Center” to find the list of community mental health centers.

PSAs Peer Support is Free! Visit dhhs.nh.gov and search for “Peer Support” to find the list of peer support agencies around the State of NH.

Alternative Treatments

HB1464 Requiring insurance coverage for yoga therapy as an alternative to opioids; and

SB504 Establishing a committee to study the effectiveness of outdoor therapy, art therapy and music therapy as alternative-covered treatments for individuals with post-traumatic stress disorder and substance abuse disorders.

Education

HB327-FN-A Making an appropriation to the community college system to continue the math learning communities program in partnership with NH high schools;

HB678-FN Raising the cost-per-pupil of providing the opportunity for an adequate education for the purpose of determining state funding. This bill also adds differential aid for transportation costs;

HB686-FN-A-L Calculating and funding the interim cost of an opportunity for an adequate education and extending the interest and dividends tax to capital gains;

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HB705-FN	Clarifying sexual assault, sexual misconduct in institutions of higher education, and the rights of victims of crime;
HB709-FN-A-L	Clarifying the formula relative to determining funding for an adequate education;
HB721-FN-L	Clarifying special education for towns with no public schools;
HB1206	Adding two non-voting student members to the state board of education;
HB1232	Providing that the burden of proving the appropriateness of a child's special education placement or program is on the school district or other public agency;
HB11243	Requiring a recommendation by the higher education commission as a prerequisite to the granting of a degree by an educational institution;
HB1369	Permitting high school principals to accept for course credit certain coursework that is satisfactorily completed in other NH educational facilities;
HB1412	Requiring secondary schools to grant educational credit for certain completed courses;
HB1454	Requiring the state board of education to adopt rules establishing a process for the approval of vendors offering alternative, extended learning and work-based programs which may be accepted for credit by a local school board;
HB1469	Establishing prohibitions and reporting procedures for hazing at secondary and post-secondary educational institutions;
HB1473	Requiring schools to have a special education parent advisory council;
HB1492-FN-A-L	Establishing a tax on the retail sale of certain electronic devices to fund education;
HB1501	Establishing a commission to study financial literacy in NH and to make recommendations for a multi-generational approach to financial education;
HB1520	Establishing the NH health professionals' program administration fund and making an appropriation therefor, and relative to state board of education rulemaking regarding criminal history records checks;
HB1558-FN	Addressing students' behavioral needs and making an appropriation therefor; kindergarten funding; violence in schools; policies for students with head injuries; child sexual abuse prevention and training; authorizing the issuance of bonds or notes by a municipality; adding the Chancellor of the University System of NH to the Department of Business and Economic Affairs Council of Partner Agencies; change of school or assignment due to manifest educational hardship; school board expenditure of year-end fund balances; a children's system of care; student wellness and criminal background checks for bus drivers;
HB1582-FN	Providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled; programs to aid veterans' access to employment, housing, healthcare and college degrees; educational assistance for members of the NH National Guard; tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship and prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veterans status;
HB1636	Requiring the resident district to fund a free and appropriate education to a child with disabilities attending a chartered public school;
HB1698-FN	Requiring the department of education to review the consolidated state plan biennially to ensure that school districts establish unified co-curricular activities for students with disabilities and makes an appropriation for the purposes of the bill;
SB455	Prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veteran status;
SB514	Requiring the state board of education to establish a process for the approval of vendors offering alternative, extended learning and work-based programs which may be accepted for credit by a local school board;
SB529-FN	Establishing a workforce development student debt relief program and fund, and authorizes a portion of funds in the NH excellence in higher education trust fund to be used for this new program;

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SB515	Establishing requirements for school-district, discrimination-prevention policies;
SB535	Authorizing school districts to adopt community-service programs;
SB679-FN	Requiring institutions of higher education to adopt and make available to students policies on sexual misconduct; to develop a task force and survey on sexual misconduct and report its findings; to appoint a campus safety advisor; to collaborate with law enforcement on the investigation and prosecution of sexual misconduct incidents; to establish confidential resource advisors; to develop awareness programming and to undertake institutional training in the awareness and prevention of sexual misconduct on campus;
SB711-FN-L	Requiring school administrative units, school districts and chartered public schools to provide employees who require a criminal history records check with materials concerning sexual abuse prevention; and
SB761-FN	Limiting the rate of budget growth in the community college system; prohibits salary and benefits increases in any year in which there is a layoff at any institution within the community college system and requires the chancellor and board of trustees of the community college system to issue a public budget accountability report.

Facilities

HB1548	Establishing a secure psychiatric unit facility advisory council to assist the Commissioner of the Department of Health & Human Services; and
SB701	Declaring that the management of the new secure psychiatric unit facility shall be the responsibility of the Department of Health & Human Services. Under this bill, the department shall not enter into a contract for the construction or operation of the facility with a private for-profit prison construction or management company.

First Responders Interactions

Food Programs

HB1239	Providing that the Department of Health and Human Services shall enable participants in the food stamp program to complete the renewal process electronically if the household includes a member with an illness, injury, or disability;
HB1512	Permitting a school to partner with a non-profit to freeze leftover school food that was never served to send home with children who participate in a free or reduced-price meals program;
HB1682-FN-L	Requiring every school in which a student with a life-threatening food allergy is enrolled to maintain a food-allergy management and prevention plan; and
HB1703	Establishing a working group on food recovery. This bill is a request of the study committee on recycling and solid waste, established pursuant to 2019, 265 (HB617).

Insurance Coverage

HB233	Establishing the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2009, Public 111-148, as amended in statute;
HB712-FN	Establishing a system of paid family and medical leave insurance;
HB717-FN	Prohibiting prescription drug manufacturers from offering coupons or discounts to cover insurance copayments or deductibles;
HB1340	Establishing rebates under the law governing unfair insurance practices;
HB1436-FN	Establishing an act relative to autism spectrum disorder insurance coverage;
HB1464	Requiring insurance coverage for yoga therapy as an alternative to opioids;
HB1600-FN-A	Authorizing pharmacists to provide smoking cessation therapy pursuant to a standing order from a physician or APRN and to be reimbursed under Medicaid. It also provides insurance coverage for pharmacist-cognitive services under certain circumstances;

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SB531	Requiring prior authorizations under group health insurance policies and managed care;
SB620-FN	Requiring insurers providing benefits for treatment and diagnosis of certain biologically-based mental illnesses and substance use disorders to submit an annual report to the Insurance Commissioner demonstrating compliance with the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Equity Act of 2008;
SB622-FN	Establishing minimum standards for insurance claim review and settlement practices;
SB646-FN	Clarifying premiums and coverage under the law governing Medicare supplemental insurance;
SB647-FN	Clarifying prescribing certain medications via tele-medicine;
SB708-FN	Requiring the Department of Health & Human services to create a voluntary non-opioid directive form which may be used for non-opioid treatment options for pain. This bill also establishes insurance coverage for such treatment options; and
SB739-FN	Requiring insurers providing benefits for mental health and substance use disorders to reimburse covered persons for benefits delivered through the psychiatric collaborative care model.

LGBTQ+ Services

Medication Administration Techniques

Medication-Centered Care

Peer-Centered Care

CMHCs	Many Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs) have teams that provide peer-centered care via a Peer Support Specialist. Visit dhhs.nh.gov and search for “Community Mental Health Center” for the list of community mental health centers.
PSAs	All Peer Support Agencies (PSAs) provide peer-centered care via peers with lived experience. Visit dhhs.nh.gov and search for “Peer Support” for the list of peer support agencies.
HB1521-FN	Adding a peer support specialist to the board of mental health practice; and
SB634	Establishing a peer support program in the Department of Health & Human Services.

Substance Use Disorders

HB366	Adding opioid addiction, misuse, and abuse to qualifying medical conditions under therapeutic use of cannabis;
HB1230	Making an appropriation for the purpose of funding substance use disorder services in Nashua;
HB1623-FN	Clarifying prescribing certain medications via tele-medicine for substance use disorders;
SB600-FN-L	Requiring medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders for prisoners incarcerated in county correctional facilities;
SB633	Requiring the Department of Health & Human Services to adopt rules relative to the voluntary registration and certification of recovery housing;
SB708-FN	Requiring the Department of Health & Human services to create a voluntary non-opioid directive form which may be used for non-opioid treatment options for pain. This bill also establishes insurance coverage for such treatment options; and
SB762-FN	Establishing an opioid abatement trust fund. The Department of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the New Hampshire opioid abatement advisory commission, shall use the fund to support programs associated with the prevention, treatment, and recovery of substance use disorder.

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Suicide Prevention

HB652 Establishing suicide-prevention programs by teachers and administrators in public schools.

Transportation

HB1344-L Amending the definition of “sending district” (i.e. transportation) to allow reimbursement for the cost of a student attending a career and technical education program in the school district in which the student resides;

HB2020 Adopting the 10-year transportation improvement plan for 2021-2030;

RCCs Regional Coordinating Councils (RCCs) offer enhanced transportation options to senior and disabled people. Visit nh.gov and search for “**State Coordinating Council**” for a list of regional coordinating councils.

SB610 Establishing a committee to evaluate the Transportation Climate Initiative memorandum of understanding and associated modeling and scenarios; and

SB707-FN Clarifying projects included in the 10-year transportation plan.

Veterans’ Services

HB130-L (Law) Establishing property tax relief for totally and permanently-disabled veterans;

HB1197 Exempting disabled veterans from the payment of property taxes;

HB1582-FN Providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled; programs to aid veterans’ access to employment, housing, healthcare and college degrees; educational assistance for members of the NH National Guard; tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship and prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veterans status;

HB1716-FN Concerning to the treatment of veterans' disability benefits for purposes of determining child support; and

SB726-FN Requiring programs to aid veterans' access to employment, entrepreneurship, housing, health care and college degrees.

Workforce

HB1106 Concerning non-compete agreements for certain mental health professionals;

SB529-FN Establishing a workforce development student debt relief program and fund, and authorizes a portion of funds in the NH excellence in higher education trust fund to use for this new program; and

SB557 Adding a member to the advisory council on career and technical education. This bill also requires the state board of education to adopt rules establishing requirements for a career readiness credential.

Youth Services

HB327-FN-A Making an appropriation to the community college system to continue the math learning communities program in partnership with NH high schools;

HB383 Prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex, gender identity, race, color, marital status, physical or mental disability, religion, creed or national origin in any public school, non-public school or approved school tuition program;

HB1162 Clarifies relative to adoption and parentage; the office of the child advocate; reimbursement of court-ordered services for juveniles; the legal representation of children in the juvenile justice system; the best interests of the child under RSA 169-C and the duties of the oversight commission on children’s services; insurance coverage for children’s early intervention services; expanding the family-centered early supports and services (FCESS) programs to children under the age of 3 who are born substance-exposed; the child abuse and neglect

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central registry; establishing a kinship navigator program; missing children; dispositional hearings under RSA 169-B and the rebuttable presumption of harm under the Child Protection Act;

HB1206 Adding two non-voting student members to the state board of education;

HB1278 Requiring the Department of Health & Human Services to establish a program to oversee treatment planning and medication monitoring for children in foster care and to adopt rules relative to the administration of psychotropic medications for such children;

HB1558-FN Addressing students' behavioral needs and making an appropriation therefor; kindergarten funding; violence in schools; policies for students with head injuries; child sexual abuse prevention and training; authorizing the issuance of bonds or nots by a municipality; adding the Chancellor of the University System of NH to the Department of Business and Economic Affairs Council of Partner Agencies; change of school or assignment due to manifest educational hardship; school board expenditure of year-end fund balances; a children's system of care; student wellness and criminal background checks for bus drivers;

HB1582-FN Providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled; programs to aid veterans' access to employment, housing, healthcare and college degrees; educational assistance for members of the NH National Guard; tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship and prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement or veterans status;

HB1616-FN Clarifying the age for minor's visits to mental health practitioners; and

HB1698-FN Requiring the department of education to review the consolidated state plan biennially to ensure that school districts establish unified co-curricular activities for students with disabilities and makes an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.