

City Council Legislative Subcommittee/Delegation Meeting
Conference Room A
8:30 a.m.
Monday, February 3, 2014

- I. Greeting: Mayor Lister
- II. Report on Senate Legislation: Senator Martha Fuller Clark
SB 237 requires officers of condominium association to provide notice to all unit owners regarding land use board hearings relative to an abutting property.
LSR 2749 Relative to aid for regional agreements of watershed municipalities.
SB 367 relative to the adjustment of the road toll “gas tax” according to changes in the Consumer Price Index.
- III. Report on House Legislation: House Members
- IV. Report on Legislation of interest to Legislative Subcommittee Members:
Chris Dwyer: HB 1573 relative to abolishing regional planning commissions and requires election of planning board members.
HB 1266 gives towns the option of appointing, rather than electing Town Clerks.
- V. Report on pending Right to Know Legislation and Education Funding: Jane Ferrini
Pending bills amending right to know law: HB 685; HB 1156; HB 1153, HB 1591; HB 1450; HB 1379 and HB 1357. The House Judiciary Committee will have a work session on pending right to know bills to discuss the possibility of whether agreement can be reached in order to propose one bill. The work session is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

No proposed constitutional amendment this session regarding the Statewide Education Property Tax (SWEPT).
- VI. Legislation of Interest: City Departments
 - a. Assessing:
HB 1110 prohibiting sales chasing by assessor.
SB 286 allows for the abatement of property taxes assessed in years prior to the current year.
 - b. City Clerk:
Bills on election process and voter I.D.
 - c. Finance:
HB 1285 relative to recommendations by the DRA regarding municipal fund balance retention.
HB 1196 relative to allowing cities to waive a portion of interest due on late property taxes under special circumstances.
 - d. Health:
Ongoing monitoring of proposed legislation relative to various health issues, including but not limited to Food Safety, Licensing and Inspection of Child Care Agencies, Smoking in Licensed Facilities, Definitions of Food Licensing Categories. Examples are:
HB 608 relative to the sale of certain uninspected poultry and rabbits to licensed restaurants.

HB 1478 relative to state licensing and oversight of child care agencies.
LSR 2630 relative to smoking in licensed facilities.
Bills relative to exemptions from the Food Safety and Modernization Act: HB 1464,
HB 1221, HB 1582, HB 1583, HB 1273.

- e. Human Resources:
Bills relative to hiring and changes to state retirement.

- f. Planning:
HB 1271 established a committee to study the powers and duties of conservation commissions.
SB 315 establishing a board of building official to certify building officials.
HB 1100 establishes a committee to study the ownership of land by public entities for conservation.
HB 1258 modifies the process of submitting dredge and fill applications and notification requirement.

- g. School Department:
Legislation relative to CHINS, delinquency and truancy.

VII. Other Legislation of Interest:

HB 1550 relative to audio and video recording of public officials.

This bill is very broadly written. A Public Official is defined as any officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state. The bill would include any Public Official performing a "government function".

HB 1201 relative to the accountability of public officials.

This bill expands the definition of official oppression by making it an unspecified misdemeanor. It removes the requirement that a public official act with an intent to benefit him or herself or to harm another and provides, if the public official has been found guilty, that s/he shall be removed from public office with no appeal and shall be prohibited from holding public office for 10 years. This bill also creates a new offense of failing to respond to an affidavit.

HB 1560 prohibits a political subdivision from using funds derived from tax revenues to engage in lobbying or attempting to influence legislation.

NHMA will not be supporting this bill. The bill as written would prohibit the City of Portsmouth from using funds received from former donor communities to lobby on behalf of the coalition communities. Barbara Reid has informed the City that the bill has only one sponsor which may indicate it may not have the support of the legislature.

SB 350 relative to transfer of average daily membership information from the DOE to the DRA.

This is Senator Stiles' bill that attempts to avert the severe delay in setting the tax rates last fall by moving the reporting date for the Department of Education to provide the final average daily membership data to the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue Administration to no later than October 1 of each year.

Copies of bills referenced above may be obtained at: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us>. Input bill number in box located in State Legislation Dash Board next to box entitled "Find a 2014 Bill".