



State Conservation Committee

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nh.gov/SCC

2023 Legislative Session Watch List

Updated August 28th, 2023

This watch list is provided to inform conservation district supervisors, associate supervisors, staff, and the public about legislative activity of the New Hampshire Senate and House of Representatives that may impact conservation district activities. In no way is it meant to state or imply positioning (either in support or opposition) of the NH State Conservation Committee to these bills. The State Conservation Committee does not take stances on legislation. This list is only meant to help better inform people around the State about what is going on in their government.

For more information on New Hampshire’s legislative process, go to the State Almanac, which can be found at <https://www.nh.gov/almanac/bills.htm>.

House Bills

| Bill, LSR, Sponsor | Description | Comm. | Status/Upcoming Activity |
|----------------------|--|-------|--|
| HB 119, Ankarberg | Raises maximum annual gross sale homestead food operations may sell without food licensing from \$35,000 to \$70,000. | E&A | 8/9/23-Signed by Gov. Sununu: Part 1 effective 7/1/2025; Part 2 effective 10/3/23 |
| HB122, Ankarberg | Defines homestead food operations and provides food service licensing exemptions for them. | E&A | 8/22/23-Committee hearing 9/12/23 at 10:00am. |
| HB 128, Ankarberg | Repealing state seed labeling license requirements. | E&A | 2/14/23- Committee Report- Inexpedient to Legislate <i>Bill's Outlook- "Dead"</i> |
| HB208, Chretien | Establishes greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for the State, and creates a climate action plan. | ST&E | 2/27/23-Committee Report: Without Recommendation (2/16) 3/16/23-Motion to Reconsider Failed |
| HB 214, Rung | Removes authorization for complete capacity utilization of the Merrimack River from Bedford/Merrimack town line to NH/MA state border. | RR&D | 7/12/23- Signed by Gov. Sununu, effective 8/29/23. |

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|-------------------|--|-------|---|
| HB 221, Bixby | Requires that agricultural land development rights purchased by the NH Dept. of Ag, Markets, and Food be held in the name of the State of NH, or the deed shall stipulate that the State has the right to enforce the terms of the deed. | E&A | Signed by Gov. Sununu: game camera regulations go into effect 1/1/24 |
| HB 254, Simpson | Allows political subdivision members who are virtually attending a meeting to count towards a quorum. Requires at least 1/3 of the members to be physically present. | Jud. | 2/23/23-Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate <i>Bill's Outlook-</i> "Dead" |
| HB 348, Ankarburg | Increases the amount of raw milk a producer processor can sell or process without a license. | E&A | 3/16/23-Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate <i>Bill's Outlook-</i> "Dead" |
| HB 369, McGhee | Creates a task force to provide energy relief on farms. | E&A | 1/9- Introduced and assigned to House E&A Comm. |
| HB 372, Caplan | Establishes a commission to study the short and long term impacts of regional carbon pricing mechanisms on New Hampshire people, organizations, and land. | ST&E | 2/27/23-Committee Report: Without Recommendation (2/16) 3/9/23-Voice Vote: Inexpedient to Legislate <i>Bill's Outlook-</i> "Dead" |
| HB 493, Bixby | Eliminates the state meat inspection program. | E&A | 8/22/23- Committee hearing 9/12/23 at 10:00am. |
| HB 655, McGuire | Eliminates professional license requirements for multiple professions including foresters, wetland scientists, and natural scientists. *The elimination of forestry and natural scientist licenses has been removed from this bill. | Exec. | 6/29/23-Signed by Gov. Sununu, effective 7/1/23. |

House Committee Information

E&A- Environment and Agriculture (LOB 303);

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=2>

Edu- Education (LOB 207); <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=1>

Exec.-Executive Department and Administration (LOB 306);

<https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=3>

Jud. - Judiciary (LOB 208); <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=5>

RR&D- Resources, Recreation, and Development (LOB Room 305);

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/links.aspx?x=1&id=13>

ST&E- Science, Technology, and Energy (LOB Room 304);

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=15>

W&M- Ways and Means (LOB Room 202);

<http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/committees/committeedetails.aspx?id=19>

Senate Bills

| Bill, LSR, Sponsor | Description | Comm. | Status/Upcoming Activity |
|---------------------------|---|--------------|--|
| SB 163, Pearl | Limits the frequency of documentation requests a municipality can make of a farm. | E&NR | 2/22/23- Introduced to Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee |
| SB 164, Watters | The bill defines "biodiversity," requires its inclusion in certain land use regulations, and creates a form contract to preserve rights of domestic and wild animals. | E&NR | 5/18/23-House motion adopted to "Lay SB164 on Table." |

Senate Committee Information

E&NR- Energy and Natural Resources (SH Room 103);

http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/senate/committees/committee_details.aspx?cc=41

Judi- Judiciary (SH Room 100); http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/senate/committees/committee_details.aspx?cc=33