

**NHHC
LEGISLATIVE UPDATES
May 15, 2026**



To find full information about each proposed legislative bill, use this link:
<https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/> go to Current Bills, type in the bill number.
 You can also use the above link to identify and find contact info for your state representatives and senators or to search for your legislator, go to: <https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/house/members/>
<https://gc.nh.gov/senate/>

To leave testimony by email or online before hearing, use this link <https://gc.nh.gov/>
 Scroll to Meeting Resources.

HOUSE - [House Sign-in Form and Online Testimony Submission](#)

Can Support, Oppose, Neutral and leave testimony

SENATE - [Senate Remote Sign In](#)

Can Support, Oppose, Neutral

To leave Senate testimony send an email to the Bill’s current Senate Standing Committee.

Instructions for Senate testimony

<https://gc.nh.gov/misc/Public%20Guidance%20for%20Senate%20Committee%20Meetings.pdf>

Attention: *The sign-in sheet will close for purposes of registering your opinion at 11:59 p.m. the day of the hearing. After the Hearing the Committee will recommend an action for the Full Senate or House vote. You can contact your Senator or House Representatives before the Full vote.*

Trail Bills –

Bill Number	Bill Title	Status/Hearing
HB1594 text	Repeals current 261:141-c and is establishing a weight-based tiered registration fee schedule for electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles. <i>Electric bikes vs Neighborhood electric vehicle \$0?</i>	House Status: House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 01:40 pm GP 234 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNIcczOL-WQ Time: 3:59:45 Amendment 2026-0322h PASSED/ADOPTED Senate Status: Introduced 03/26/2026 and Referred to Transportation; SJ 7

		Public Hearing: 04/21/2026, Room 122-123, SH, 01:00 pm; SC 15 Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 05/07/2026; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 17 PASSED/ADOPTED
HR44 text	concerning the protection of public lands. This resolution urges support for keeping public ownership of public lands and opposes efforts to rescind the Roadless Rule.	House Status: House Resources, Recreation and Development Public Hearing: 02/11/2026 10:30 am GP 228 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=itd_xT3qks Time: 36:14 PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT 2026-0800h and 2026-1078h
SB592	enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors. Bill: SB592 - Title: (New Title) enabling regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors and creating a commission to study transferring ownership of the Winnepesaukee River Basin program to an alternative authority. This bill: I. Enables regional, conservation, and energy resource planning for habitat strongholds and wildlife corridors. II. Creates a commission to study transferring ownership of the Winnepesaukee River Basin program to an alternative authority. III. Creates the position of director of the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program within the department of environmental services. See Sen Hearing Rpt (1/13/26) Will this affect the development	Senate Status: Senate Energy and Natural Resources Public Hearing: 01/08/2026, Room 103, SH, 01:15 pm; SC 46 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HFTxAdaruI Time: 16:30 Amendment # 2026-0516s , PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT House Status Committee: Resources, Recreation and Development. Public Hearing: 03/25/2026 11:00 am GP 228 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PjWPL8gfUkQ Time: 1:37:37 Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2026-1277h Referred to Finance 04/09/2026 HJ 10 HJ 10 Division I Work Session: Committee Report: Ought to Pass 04/27/2026 (Vote 24-0; RC) Sen. Avard Moved to Concur with the House Amendment, MA, VV; 05/14/2026; SJ 12 Senate Status: CONCURRED

	of trails?	
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Horse Industry Bills –

Bill Number	Bill Title	Status/Hearing
SB475	<p>including a determination of the best interest of the animal in the definition of foster home.</p> <p>House amended to add the language found in HB1766 regarding cruelty to livestock and who makes the determination to take livestock into protective custody.</p> <p>Still needs to be signed or vetoed by the Governor.</p>	<p>Senate Status: Senate Energy and Natural Resources Public Hearing: 02/17/2026, Room 103, SH, 09:30 am; SC 5 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7oNG5eNko_M Time: 31:31 Amendment # 2026-1005S; PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT</p> <p>House Status: Committee: Environment and Agriculture Public Hearing: 03/31/2026 10:00 am GP 153 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zq-FhmcZqEI Time: 2:49 Ought to Pass with Amendment 2026-1838h: MA VV 05/14/2026 HJ 13 PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT As Amended by the House</p>
HB1766-FN	<p>relative to cruelty to livestock.</p> <p>This bill prohibits the confiscation of animals from persons suspected of abuse of animals unless such person is charged with cruelty to animals or the animals require temporary protective custody. This bill also requires the state veterinarian or their designee to accompany an investigating officer when livestock are the subject of a cruelty case in order to set probable cause criteria for</p>	<p>House Status: House Environment and Agriculture Public Hearing: 02/03/2026 03:00 pm GP 153 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eofOvnBu2po Time: 6:35:06 Amendment 2026-0985h PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT</p>

	<p>the taking of the animal.</p> <p>Still needs to be signed or vetoed by the Governor.</p>	<p>Senate Status: Introduced 03/12/2026 and Referred to Energy and Natural Resources; SJ 7 Public Hearing: 04/02/2026, Room 103, SH, 09:30 am; SC 12 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=efTRVvMq03U Time: 58:31 Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2026-1432s, 04/16/2026; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 14A HB 1766 was Removed from the Consent Calendar; 04/16/2026; Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2026-1432s, 04/23/2026, Vote 5-0; SC 15 PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT House Status CONCURRED</p>
<p><u>SB619-FN</u></p>	<p>establishing procedures for expedited court hearings and disposition of confiscated animals. See Sen Hearing Rpt (2/13/26)</p> <p><i>Amendment includes: A purpose of the hearing shall be to determine whether the confiscation of the animal or animals was lawful in accordance with paragraph IV-a. Upon such a showing, the court may make a determination of temporary custody that is in the best interest of the animal's health, safety, and wellbeing.</i></p> <p>Still needs to be signed or vetoed by the Governor.</p>	<p>Senate Status: Senate Judiciary Public Hearing: 02/12/2026, Room 100, SH, 01:10 pm; SC 5 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXCR09--m6w Time: 45:30 Amendment 2026-0848s [PDF] PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT</p> <p>House Status: Introduced (in recess of) 03/12/2026 and referred to Judiciary HJ 8 Public Hearing: 03/25/2026 10:00 am GP 230 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZoCtvvTxFY Time: 1:24:00 Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment # 2026-1347h 04/08/2026 (Vote 18-0; CC) PASSED/ADOPTED WITH</p>

		AMENDMENT Senate Status: CONCURRED <u>Version adopted by both bodies</u>
<u>SB446 text</u>	<p>requiring animal care center operators to notify dog owners when a dog will be left unattended and to report injuries to animals or people which occur on the premises of the animal care center. “Animal care center” definition includes “or other center providing care and treatment for animals.” 437:25 requires reporting injuries to animals or people, 437:26 requires an annual unannounced inspection, and obtaining a certification.</p> <p>Concern: It is unclear whether this excludes livestock (horse boarding and training) care centers.</p> <p>The amendment clarifies the definition of animal care center “a commercial dog care facility” for the new subdivision. It is not the same as RSA 437:18 definition</p> <p>See <u>Sen Hearing Rpt (1/23/26)</u></p>	<p>Senate Status: IN COMMITTEE Senate Commerce Public Hearing: 01/20/2026, 10:45 am; Room 100, SH, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WZSL9TZ_9BM Time: 1:46:55 Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2026-0685s, 02/19/2026; Vote 5-1; Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/12/2026, Vote 6-0; SC 9 <u>Sen. Birdsell Moved Laid on Table, MA, VV; 03/12/2026; SJ 6</u> LAID ON TABLE</p>

Trail Motorized Bills -

[HB1037 text](#) extending the commission to study OHRV use in New Hampshire and adding a member from the department of tourism.

House - PASSED/ADOPTED

Senate - PASSED/ADOPTED

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

[HB1095 text](#) increasing the maximum weight of a utility terrain vehicle to 3,000 pounds.

Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment **#2026-0687h** (NT) 02/11/2026 (Vote 15-1; CC)

House - PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT

Senate - PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT

[HB113](#) relative to OHRV operation on certain highways within the town of Windsor.

House - PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT

Senate - PASSED/ADOPTED

Removed from Monitoring list - History of Legislation for 2026

Bill Number	Bill Title	Status/Hearing
<p>HB1530-FN</p>	<p>requiring notification of abutters and public review prior to disturbing beaver dams in non-emergency situations.</p> <p><u>Poses new requirements to notify abutter's 30 days prior and to hold a public meeting 15 days prior and to publish notification in local newspaper or town website 7 days prior to disturbing beaver dams in non-emergency situations.</u></p> <p><i>Affects trail maintenance. It is a cumbersome and unnecessary procedure for protecting the infrastructure of trails, Class III, Class VI roads, Culverts or bridges from damage or being submerged from pop-up dams. The Bill needs to be clear that abutter notifications and hearings are not required for the above items, especially for new pop-up dams that may be considered non-emergency. The Bill was written for beaver ponds that have existed for years and may be waterfront property. The amount acceptable for lowering the water level is not clear.</i></p>	<p>LSR 26-2740 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Resources, Recreation and Development Public Hearing: 01/14/2026 03:15 pm GP 228 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kdDHme1JH-c Time: 5:45:08 Executive Session: 01/28/2026 10:00 am GP 228 <u>Inexpedient to Legislate:</u></p>
<p>HB1703 text</p>	<p>relative to establishing a <u>registration fee for bicycles and electric bicycles using state or municipally funded bike paths, trails, or roadways.</u></p> <p>This bill establishes a required annual registration fee for all bicycles and electric bicycles operating on state or municipally funded paths, trails, and roadways which bicycles and electric bicycles are permitted to be ridden on. The bill also establishes a penalty for failure to register and <u>directs funds from said fees and penalties to the commissioner of the department of transportation for the creation and maintenance of bicycle routes, lanes, paths,</u></p>	<p>LSR 2026-3158 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/27/2026 11:00 am GP 234 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pa_nMbEn8ok Time: 1:16:18 Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate</u> 02/10/2026 (Vote 16-0; CC) <u>Inexpedient to Legislate:</u></p>

	<p><u>or trails in the state.</u></p> <p><i>All bikes will be registered. Creates a NHDOT trail fund with bike registration.</i></p>	
HB1682 text	<p>relative to registration and road access for low-capacity and low-weight battery-operated vehicles.</p>	<p>LSR 2026-3112 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 02:00 pm GP 234 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNIcczOL-WQ Time: 4:10:07 Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate:</u></p>
HB1410 text	<p>creating a new classification for electric vehicles.</p> <p>This bill <u>defines out-of-class electric vehicles “OCEV” as fewer than 4 wheels, with a continuous rated output of 750 watts or greater; capable of attaining a speed of 20 miles per hour or greater on motor power alone; restricts public operation on any public way or non-motorized rail trail unless reclassified, establishes disclosure requirements for sellers, sets equipment and licensing standards, imposes age and safety requirements, and establishes penalties for violations.</u></p> <p>Restricts Out-of-class electric vehicles on public ways and non-motorized rail trails. Concern – not specifying public trails or paths.</p>	<p>LSR 2026-3084 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 01:20 pm GP 234 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNIcczOL-WQ Time: 3:30:45 Committee Report: Refer for Interim Study 02/10/2026 (Vote 16-0; CC) <u>Refer for Interim Study:</u></p>
HB1533 text	<p>relative to the use and registration of Class 3 electric bicycles and Class 3 alternative electric micromobility devices.</p> <p>II. <u>Prohibits the operation of any electric class 3 bike/device on bicycle or multi-use paths. EXCEPT</u> <i>are allowed on trails if the agency with jurisdiction has approved their use.</i></p> <p>III. Defines alternative electronic micromobility devices and classifies such devices identically to electric bicycle classifications.</p> <p>V. <u>Requires that all electric class 3</u></p>	<p>LSR 2026-2568 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/20/2026 01:00 pm GP 234 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNIcczOL-WQ Time: 3:07:07 Committee Report: Refer for Interim Study 02/10/2026 (Vote 16-0; CC) <u>Refer for Interim Study:</u></p>

	<p>bicycles/devices be registered \$50/yr.</p> <p>XI. Shall expend moneys collected from class 3 electric bicycle/device registration fees, for the purposes of creating and maintaining bicycle routes, lanes, paths, or trails in the state.</p> <p>259:27-a Electric Bicycle. – https://gc.nh.gov/rsa/html/XXI/259/259-27-a.htm</p> <p>265:144-a Electric Bicycles. – https://gc.nh.gov/rsa/html/XXI/265/265-144-a.htm</p> <p>Restricts use of Class 3 electric bikes and devices on bicycle or multi-use paths EXCEPT are allowed on trails if the agency with jurisdiction has approved their use. (such as Class 3 e-bikes allowed on DNCR Class III recreational roads, park roads, and rail trails.) Creates a NHDOT trail fund with Class 3 registration.</p>	
<p>HB1647 text</p>	<p>relative to the taxation of farm and farm structures. Redefines “Qualifying farm structures”. Requires towns to adopt this provision. Removes “structures contiguous to a minimum of 10 acres of open space land”. May affect those productive horse farms that qualify or could qualify.</p>	<p>LSR 2026-3209 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Ways and Means Public Hearing: 01/28/2026 11:00 am GP 154 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OkT4exIMvkE Time: 1:04:25 Committee Report: Refer for Interim Study 02/02/2026 (Vote 19-0; CC) Refer for Interim Study:</p>
<p>HB1293</p>	<p>taxing certain properties owned by charitable or non-profit organizations.</p> <p>Affects Rescues, Therapeutic Riding facilities</p>	<p>House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Ways and Means Public Hearing: 01/29/2026 11:30 am GP 154 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YFXGmcZw6M Time: 2:11:40 Executive Session: 02/02/2026 02:00 pm GP 159 Committee Report: Refer for Interim Study 02/02/2026</p>

		(Vote 18-1; CC) Refer for Interim Study:
HB1691 text	<p>relative to limitations and qualifications for land placed in current use.</p> <p>This bill restricts eligibility for current use property tax assessment based on parcel size, zoning, and sustainability criteria, and limits municipal approval percentages. This bill also imposes retroactive tax liability for violations. Affects open space and possible trails. https://www.revenue.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt736/files/documents/current-use-criteria-booklet.pdf</p>	<p>LSR 2026-2689 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Municipal and County Government Public Hearing: 02/10/2026 01:40 pm GP 154 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-Z5yHulmQo Time: 4:58:30 Executive Session: 02/17/2026 09:00 am GP 154 Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate</u> 02/17/2026 (Vote 17-0; CC) Inexpedient to Legislate:</p>
HB1473 text	<p>relative to the use of agricultural fairground property.</p> <p>This bill limits the ability of local governments in New Hampshire to impose zoning restrictions on land used for agricultural fairs.</p>	<p>LSR 2026-2979 House Status: IN COMMITTEE House Municipal and County Government Public Hearing: 02/10/2026 01:15 pm GP 154 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-Z5yHulmQo Time: Executive Session: 02/17/2026 09:00 am GP 154 Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate</u> 02/17/2026 (Vote 17-0; CC) Inexpedient to Legislate:</p>
HB1751-FN	<p>relative to a state park public safety parking surcharge.</p> <p>This bill establishes a 5% public safety surcharge on paid parking at state park facilities and creates a dedicated fund to distribute collected revenues quarterly to host municipalities for public safety services related to park visitation.</p> <p>Affects Park Fees</p>	<p>House Status: House Resources, Recreation and Development Public Hearing: 01/21/2026 01:00 pm GP 228 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IP-H-AxWo4 Time: 3:46:30 Committee Report: Ought to Pass 01/21/2026 (Vote 14-0; RC) <u>Referred to Ways and Means</u> 02/05/2026 HJ 3</p>

		<p>Full Committee Work Session: 03/02/2026 11:00 am GP 159</p> <p>Executive Session: 03/02/2026 01:00 pm GP 159</p> <p>Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate</u> 03/02/2026 (Vote 18-0; CC)</p> <p><u>Inexpedient to Legislate:</u></p>
<u>SB511-FN</u>	<p>Title: (New Title) relative to state park fee discounts for state residents.</p> <p>I. Requires the commissioner of the department of natural and cultural resources to <u>set state park entry fees for New Hampshire residents at no more than 50 percent of the fees charged to nonresidents.</u> II. <u>Allows separate fee schedules for specific uses within state parks including camping, facility rental, parking, or boat rental.</u> III. Permits discounted or waived rates for veterans and school or student groups.</p> <p><i>Affects Park fees</i> <i>See Sen Hearing Rpt (1/21/26)</i></p>	<p>Senate Status: Senate Ways and Means Public Hearing: 01/21/2026, Room 122-123, SH, 09:45 am https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6XxvUroSJXQ Time: 46:02 Amendment #2026-1032s, PASSED/ADOPTED WITH AMENDMENT</p> <p>House Status: Committee: Ways and Means Public Hearing: 03/23/2026 10:00 am GP 159 Full Committee Work Session: 04/06/2026 10:00 am GP 159 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6vwg2ghf_rI Time: 1:43 Executive Session: 04/06/2026 10:45 am GP 159 Committee Report: <u>Inexpedient to Legislate</u> 04/06/2026 (Vote 12-0; CC) INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</p>

KEY WORD SEARCH

LSR https://gc.nh.gov/lsr_search/LSR_Results.aspx

Animal, Cruelty, Agri, Farm, Agriculture, Agricultural
Horse, Equine, Livestock,
Trail, Rail, Recreation, Park, Forest, Beach, Outdoor
Drones, Liability, Natural and Cultural Resources
OHRV, Snowmobile, ATV, Terrain,

Bicycle, Vehicle, Electric, Road,
Economic, Tourism
Landowner, Land, Fish, Tree, Environment, Conservation, Current use
Trespass, Waste, Manure,

<https://www.nheconomy.com/office-of-planning-and-development/resources/rsa-101>

<https://www.citizenscount.org/keys-new-hampshire-legislature-website>