New Hampshire Municipal Association

THE SERVICE AND ACTION ARM OF NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPALITIES

LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

Playing Defense

Judged against expectations at the beginning of the year, the 2018 legislative session can be considered a success for local governments. In other words, nothing disastrous happened.

It was clear from the beginning that most of NHMA's energy would need to be spent on defending municipalities against further encroachments on local authority and additional state mandates, rather than advocating for any significant improvements. For a state that prides itself on local control, there were a surprising number of legislative efforts to put state officials in charge of local decisions.

There was the bill that sought to give the secretary of state sole authority to reschedule town elections. Another would have substituted the legislature's judgment regarding valuation of utility property for that of local assessors. Another would have removed the local governing body's authority to regulate the firing of guns on town-owned property. Several bills would have imposed extremely expensive testing and treatment standards for public drinking water supplies, while others would have made local compliance with the Right-to-Know Law unduly burdensome.

In the end, all of these—and many more—were defeated or amended to the point of acceptability, usually after extensive lobbying by local officials and NHMA staff. Fortunately, there were enough legislators who took the concerns of municipalities and their taxpayers seriously and worked to preserve local authority.

Some troublesome bills did make it through. Beginning in 2019, the interest rates on delinquent property taxes will drop, reducing the incentive to pay those taxes on time—to the detriment of those who do pay on time. Also beginning in 2019, new restrictions on employment of retired New Hampshire Retirement System members will make it much harder for municipalities to hire qualified part-time employees. A new law on agritourism allows the commissioner of agriculture to rule on the validity of local zoning ordinances. All of these bills, however, were much worse when introduced, and were mitigated significantly during the legislative process.

Final Bulletin, 2018 Session August 3, 2018

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONTACT INFORMATION

Judy A. Silva, Executive Director

Cordell A. Johnston, Government Affairs Counsel

Barbara T. Reid, Government Finance Advisor

Timothy W. Fortier, Communications & Member Services Coordinator

25 Triangle Park Drive Concord NH 03301 Tel: 603.224.7447 Email address:

governmentaffairs@nhmunicipal.org Website: www.nhmunicipal.org



NHMA Members who would like to be added to the email distribution for weekly *Bulletins* during the 2019 Legislative session —please send us an email to the address above with your contact information.

As for forward movement, there was some progress. Two NHMA policy bills became law, and a third is pending. Thanks to **Chapter 247 (HB 1450)**, municipalities are now required to keep personnel files and successful job applications for only 20 years after retirement or termination, rather than 50 years. **Chapter 118 (SB 170)** enhances the ability of a municipality to issue bonds for broadband infrastructure. And **SB 446** would allow municipalities to take greater advantage of net metering by increasing the allowable capacity for net metered projects; but the governor vetoed that bill, so *please encourage your legislators to override the veto* when they convene on September 13. A continuing NHMA policy—increased funding for highways and bridges—was partially achieved in **Chapter 162 (HB 1817)**, which appropriated \$10.4 million in state bridge aid for high-traffic-volume municipal bridges.

Those are just a few of many new laws, good and bad, of interest to municipal officials. On the pages that follow you will find summaries of all new laws affecting municipal government, conveniently arranged by subject matter. As always, the summaries are brief and do not purport to explain the law in detail. Each summary is linked to the full text of the law, so be sure to read the law carefully and/or contact NHMA, or your local legal counsel, to make sure you understand it.

The level of participation by municipal officials this year was unprecedented. We thank the many local officials who called or wrote to their legislators, testified at hearings, and offered their expertise to NHMA staff in support of our efforts this year. We also thank those legislators who consistently supported the interests of their cities and towns, and their taxpayers, especially when doing so meant standing up to pressure groups and party leaders. Finally, we thank the rest of the very small NHMA staff for everything they do to support our legislative advocacy.

We wish everyone a pleasant summer and fall. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions.

Judy A. Silva

Executive Director

Judy USilia

Cordell A. Johnston

Codell a. Johnson

Government Affairs Counsel

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	CLERKS; ELECTIONS; TOWN MEETING; OFFICIAL BALLOT;
	CHARTERS7
	Contents of Checklist Chapter 100 (SR 320)
	Contents of Checklist. Chapter 100 (SB 320) Commemorative License Plates for Sestercentennial. Chapter 152 (SB 515)
	Additional Party Names on Certain Election Forms. Chapter 165 (HB 390)
	Definition of "Contracts" for Default Budget Calculation. Chapter 241 (HB 1307)
	Budget Committee Vote Tallies on Warrant. Chapter 246 (HB 1392)
	Default Budget Adjustments and Disclosure. Chapter 313 (SB 342)
	Technical Corrections to Petitioned Warrant Articles. Chapter 325 (SB 506)
	Absentee Ballot Changes. Chapter 329 (SB 527)
II.	INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS; RETIREMENT;
	STATE BUDGET8
	Layered Amortization of Retirement System Liabilities. Chapter 48 (HB 1823)
	Optional Retirement System Allowance. Chapter 101 (SB 324)
	State and Municipal Bridge Aid. Chapter 162 (HB 1817)
	Level Dollar Amortization and Terms of NHRS Trustees. Chapter 203 (HB 1805)
	Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 237 (HB 124)
	Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 287 (SB 565)
	Working After Retirement. Chapter 293 (HB 561)
	One-Time Supplemental Allowance for Certain Retirees. Chapter 304 (HB 1756)
III.	MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MANAGEMENT; LEGAL MATTERS; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; MANDATES; RIGHT-TO-KNOW LAW; LABOR
	Committee to Study Regulation of Biometric Information. Chapter 21 (HB 523)
	Revolving Funds for Fire Service. Chapter 30 (HB 1303)
	State May Make Disaster Relief Loans to Municipalities. Chapter 53 (SB 471)
	Revolving Funds for Group Net Metering. <u>Chapter 58</u> (HB 1202)
	Bonds for Broadband Infrastructure. Chapter 118 (SB 170)
	Municipal Liability for Personal Injuries. <u>Chapter 125</u> (SB 387)
	Exception to Sunday Work Rules for Youth Skill Camps. Chapter 131 (SB 417)
	Deadline for Payment of Wages. Chapter 133 (SB 428)
	Sale of Tax-Deeded Property. Chapter 149 (SB 504)
	Workers' Compensation for Prophylactic Treatment for Exposure. Chapter 166 (HB 407)
	Discrimination Based on Gender Identity Prohibited. Chapter 176 (HB 1319)
	Regulation of Forestry Activities Limited. Chapter 179 (HB 1402)
	Timber Yield Tax Changes. Chapter 182 (HB 1473)
	Exemption from Raffle Permit Requirement. <u>Chapter 239</u> (HB 1276)
	Definition of "Contracts" for Default Budget Calculation. Chapter 241 (HB 1307)
	Minutes Must Indicate Who Made and Seconded Motions. Chapter 244 (HB 1347)
	Budget Committee Vote Tallies on Warrant. Chapter 246 (HB 1392)
	Shorter Retention Period for Personnel Records. Chapter 247 (HB 1450)

(Table of	of Contents—	Continued from	Page 3)	

	Commission to Study Workers' Compensation for PTSD. Chapter 261 (SB 553) Litigation Procedure Under Right-to-Know Law. Chapter 289 (HB 252) Posting and Notice Requirements for Employers; Youth Employment. Chapter 312 (SB 318) Cancer Presumption for Firefighters Under Workers' Compensation. Chapter 369 (SB 541)
IV.	PLANNING AND ZONING
	Regulation of Small Wind Energy Systems. Chapter 2 (HB 337) Municipalities Must Use State Definition of Agritourism. Chapter 56 (SB 412) Termination of Unexercised Variances and Special Exceptions. Chapter 75 (HB 1533) Notice of Crematory Construction. Chapter 150 (SB 505) Consistent Method for Voting on Variances. Chapter 168 (HB 1215) Local Regulation of Seeds and Fertilizer Preempted. Chapter 169 (HB 1233) Regulation of Forestry Activities Limited. Chapter 179 (HB 1402) Three Votes Required for Any ZBA Action. Chapter 214 (SB 339)
V.	ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PROTECTION; SOLID/ HAZARDOUS WASTE
	Commission on Non-Tidal Public Waterways. Chapter 95 (HB 1810) Cutting Timber Near Class VI Highways. Chapter 137 (SB 444) Local Regulation of Seeds and Fertilizer Preempted. Chapter 169 (HB 1233) Reports on Contaminant Testing and Monitoring. Chapter 306 (HB 1766) Commission on Delegation of NPDES Authority. Chapter 320 (SB 450) Water Quality Standards. Chapter 368 (SB 309)
VI.	PUBLIC SAFETY; POLICE; FIRE; BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTION15
	Revolving Funds for Fire Service. Chapter 30 (HB 1303) School Emergency Response Plans. Chapter 35 (HB 1370) Event Tents Must Comply with State Codes. Chapter 39 (HB 1421) Trespass by Domestic Fowl; Local Officials Must Enforce. Chapter 60 (HB 1289) Background Checks for Emergency Medical Care Providers. Chapter 88 (HB 1684) Committee to Study Ambulance Billing and Payments. Chapter 94 (HB 1782) Notice of Crematory Construction. Chapter 150 (SB 505) Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints Prohibited. Chapter 153 (SB 516) Release of Criminal Conviction Records to Defendant or Counsel. Chapter 173 (HB 1265) Compliance with Energy Provisions of Building Code. Chapter 181 (HB 1472) Access to Motor Vehicle Accident Reports. Chapter 256 (SB 398) Commission to Study Workers' Compensation for PTSD. Chapter 261 (SB 553) Committee to Study Adoption of Building and Fire Codes. Chapter 294 (HB 1254) Criminal Record Release Form Need Not Be Notarized. Chapter 318 (SB 386) Written Policy for Police Lineups Required. Chapter 347 (HB 1329) Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact. Chapter 359 (SB 370) Cancer Presumption for Firefighters Under Workers' Compensation. Chapter 369 (SB 541)

VII.	PUBLIC WORKS; WATER & SEWER; ROADS AND HIGHWAYS; AIRPORTS; RAILS					
	Regulation of Electronic Personal Assistive Mobility Devices. Chapter 20 (HB 492) Committee to Study Use of Liquid De-Icers and Solid Salt. Chapter 84 (HB 1651) Non-Menace Dams Retain Status Until Conditions Change. Chapter 119 (SB 172) Cutting Timber Near Class VI Highways. Chapter 137 (SB 444) State and Municipal Bridge Aid. Chapter 162 (HB 1817) Ambient Groundwater Standard for Arsenic. Chapter 190 (HB 1592) Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 237 (HB 124) Drinking Water Grants and Fluoride in Municipal Water Systems. Chapter 258 (SB 453) Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 287 (SB 565) Rail Transit Authority Repealed; Transportation Council Established. Chapter 291 (HB 267) Commission on Delegation of NPDES Authority. Chapter 320 (SB 450) Compact Sections May Be Established in Any Municipality by Agreement. Chapter 327 (SB 512) Ten-Year Transportation Plan; Committee to Study Driveway Permitting. Chapter 358 (HB 2018) Water Quality Standards. Chapter 368 (SB 309)					
VIII.	TAXES; ASSESSING AND COLLECTIONS; EXEMPTIONS; CURRENT USE					
	DRA Assessment Report. Chapter 50 (SB 340) Maximum Disabled V eterans' Credit Increased. Chapter 105 (SB 341) Maximum Optional V eterans' Credit Increased. Chapter 148 (SB 503) Sale of Tax-Deeded Property. Chapter 149 (SB 504) Optional Tax Credit for Combat Service. Chapter 151 (SB 511) Timber Yield Tax Changes. Chapter 182 (HB 1473) Notice of Leases on Tax-Exempt Property. Chapter 232 (SB 510) Commission to Study Utility Property Valuation. Chapter 238 (HB 324) Interest on Delinquent Taxes. Chapter 282 (HB 1673) Taxation of Recreational Vehicles. Chapter 296 (HB 1356)					
IX.	WELFARE; EDUCATION; LIBRARIES; HUMAN SERVICES; HOUSING; CEMETERIES					
	Information About Location of Historic Burial Grounds. <u>Chapter 3</u> (SB 132) Expanded Medicaid Program Extended. <u>Chapter 342</u> (SB 313)					
X .	UTILITIES					
	Bonds for Broadband Infrastructure. Chapter 118 (SB 170) Net Energy Metering Group Host Customers. Chapter 212 (SB 321) County Government Within Municipal Utility Service Area. Chapter 225 (SB 443) Commission to Study Utility Property Valuation. Chapter 238 (HB 324)					

XI.	EDUCATION FUNDING	22
	Adequate Education Grants to Certain Municipalities. <u>Chapter 8</u> (SB 539) Public School Infrastructure Fund. <u>Chapter 349</u> (HB 1415)	
XII.	SPECIAL ACTS	23
	Hampton Special Town Meeting Authorized. Chapter 117 (HB 1546)	
	TABLES	24
	Cross Reference Table for Chapter Law to Bill Number Cross Reference Table for Bill Number to Chapter Law	

I. CLERKS; ELECTIONS; TOWN MEETING; OFFICIAL BALLOT; CHARTERS

Contents of Checklist. Chapter 100 (SB 320) modifies the description of information about each voter that is to be contained on the checklist used at elections. Prior law stated that every checklist used at an election "shall contain the full name, domicile address, mailing address, and party affiliation" of each voter. Under chapter 100, the checklist is to contain that information "at a minimum." The chapter also deletes some obsolete cross-references in the statute. Statutes amended: RSA 654:25, 659:25, 659:98. Effective date [hereinafter "E.D."] July 24, 2018.

Commemorative License Plates for Sestercentennial. Chapter 152 (SB 515) adds the sester-centennial (250th) to the town and city anniversaries for which commemorative license plates may be designed and distributed. Previous law allowed commemorative plates for the centennial, bicentennial, tricentennial, sesquicentennial, "or similar special occasion." Statute amended: RSA 261:91-a. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Additional Party Names on Certain Election Forms. Chapter 165 (HB 390) amends the election day change-of-registration form and the application form for an absentee ballot to add a reference to the "name of any party determined by the secretary of state to have achieved official status under RSA 652:11," in addition to the Republican and Democratic parties. Statutes amended: RSA 654:34, 657:4. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Definition of "Contracts" for Default Budget Calculation. Chapter 241 (HB 1307) adds a definition of "contracts" to be used in calculating the default budget in official ballot referendum (SB 2) municipalities and school districts. Current law defines the default budget as the amount of the prior year's appropriations, adjusted for debt service, contracts, and obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures. The new law limits "contracts" to only those contracts "previously approved, and in the amount so approved, by the legislative body in either the operating budget authorized for the previous year or . . . a separate warrant article for a previous year." It also clarifies that explanation, discussion, and debate of both the operating budget and the default budget are to occur at the first (i.e. deliberative) session of the town meeting. Statute amended: RSA 40:13, IV. Statute added: RSA 40:13, IX (c). E.D. August 11, 2018.

Budget Committee Vote Tallies on Warrant. Chapter 246 (HB 1392) authorizes a municipal budget committee established under RSA 32:14 to require that its vote tallies on warrant articles be printed next to the affected articles if the town or school district has not voted to require the printing of such tallies. Under prior law, only the governing body could print its vote tallies on the warrant if the town or school district had not voted to require the same. Statute amended: RSA 32:5, V-a. E.D. August 11, 2018.

Default Budget Adjustments and Disclosure. Chapter 313 (SB 342) changes the calculation of the default budget in official ballot referendum (SB 2) municipalities and school districts by requiring that, in addition to the existing adjustments, the prior year budget be reduced by the amount of salaries and benefits for any positions eliminated in the proposed operating budget. "Eliminated positions" do not include vacant positions under recruitment or positions redefined in

the proposed operating budget. It also clarifies that the default budget may be higher or lower than the proposed operating budget, requires that the default budget be presented for questions and discussion at the first budget hearing, and requires that line item details by account codes for the default budget calculation be available for inspection by voters. Statutes amended: RSA 40:13, IX(b), 40:13 XI(a). E.D. August 24, 2018.

Technical Corrections to Petitioned Warrant Articles. Chapter 325 (SB 506) clarifies that any "minor textual changes" made by the selectmen or school board before placing a petitioned article on the warrant for an annual meeting "shall not in any way change the intended effect of the article as presented in the original language of the petition." Statutes amended: RSA 39:3, 197:6. E.D. August 24, 2018.

Absentee Ballot Changes. Chapter 329 (SB 527) modifies the procedure for verification of absentee ballots and allows a voter to vote by absentee ballot on the Monday immediately before an election if the National Weather Service has issued a storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning for election day and (1) the voter is elderly or infirm or has a physical disability and has concerns about traveling during the storm, or (2) the voter cares for children or infirm adults and anticipates that school, child care, or adult day care will be canceled on election day because of the storm. Statutes added or amended: RSA 657 and 659, multiple sections. E.D. January 1, 2019.

II. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS; RETIREMENT; STATE BUDGET

Layered Amortization of Retirement System Liabilities. Chapter 48 (HB 1823) requires the New Hampshire Retirement System to amortize any liability changes after July 30, 2017, separately over a fixed period no longer than 20 years. Statute amended: RSA 100-A:16, II(e). E.D. July 14, 2018.

Optional Retirement System Allowance. Chapter 101 (SB 324) allows a retiree who terminated a New Hampshire Retirement System optional allowance following divorce, or whose former spouse renounced an election, to name the current spouse for a new optional allowance. Statute amended: RSA 100-A:13, II(a)(2). E.D. July 24, 2018.

State and Municipal Bridge Aid. Chapter 162 (HB 1817) funded a variety of programs from the anticipated \$100 million surplus for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, including \$10 million to the state's revenue stabilization reserve account (also known as the rainy-day fund). Section 25 appropriated \$20 million to the Department of Transportation for state red-list bridge projects and \$10.4 million as state bridge aid for municipally owned high-traffic-volume bridge projects. Statute amended: None for reserve account and bridge funding. E.D. June 6, 2018.

Level Dollar Amortization and Terms of NHRS Trustees. Chapter 203 (HB 1805) establishes a five-member legislative committee to study the advantages and disadvantages of changing employer contributions toward the New Hampshire Retirement System's (NHRS) unfunded accrued

(Section II — Continued from Page 8)

liability from a level percent amortization to a level dollar amortization. The committee is to report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation by November 1, 2018. Chapter 203 also changes from two years to three years the term of NHRS trustees commencing with appointments or reappointments made on or after July 1, 2018. Statutes amended: RSA 100-A:14, I. E.D. June 8, 2018, for study committee and July 1, 2018, for term of trustees.

Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 237 (HB 124) modifies aircraft registration and operating fees and distributes \$250,000 of the fees collected per year to public use airports (mostly municipal airports) where the aircraft are based. Statutes amended: RSA 422:20, 422:31, and 422:36. E.D. July 1, 2018.

Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 287 (SB 565) is identical to chapter 237 (HB 124), above.

Working After Retirement. Chapter 293 (HB 561) amends the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) statutes regarding part-time employment of an NHRS retiree. It limits the allowable amount of time worked for NHRS participating employer(s) to 1,352 hours in a calendar year, enacts a minimum 28-day waiting period between the effective date of retirement and part-time employment, and requires a 12-month forfeiture of the state annuity portion of the pension for exceeding the annual hourly limit. Retirees working in a part-time position as of January 1, 2019, will be grandfathered with a limit of 1,664 hour per calendar year while working in that specific position. Employers must report annually by February 15 (rather than monthly) the hours worked by and compensation paid to each retiree and report separately by the same date the names and part-time position titles of those retirees falling under the grandfather provision. Existing exceptions continue for time worked during an emergency declared by the governor or under the director of the Division of Forest and Lands for woodland fire control purposes. Statutes amended: RSA 100-A:1, 100-A:7, 100-A:7-a, 100-A:7-b, 100-A:16. E.D. January 1, 2019.

One-Time Supplemental Allowance for Certain Retirees. Chapter 304 (HB 1756) provides a one-time \$500 supplemental allowance to New Hampshire Retirement System retirees who have at least twenty years of creditable service, have been retired at least five years prior to July 1, 2018, and have an annual pension not greater than \$30,000. Funding for this supplemental allowance is appropriated from the State of New Hampshire general fund. Statute amended: None. E.D. July 1, 2018.

III. MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE MANAGE-MENT; LEGAL MATTERS; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; MANDATES; RIGHT TO KNOW LAW; LABOR

Committee to Study Regulation of Biometric Information. Chapter 21 (HB 523) establishes a committee to determine the appropriate level of regulation for the collection and use of biometric information. Statute amended: None. E.D. May 15, 2018.

Revolving Funds for Fire Service. Chapter 30 (HB 1303) authorizes a town to establish a revolving fund for the purpose of providing fire service, or both fire and ambulance service. Statute amended: RSA 31:95-h. E.D. July 14, 2018.

State May Make Disaster Relief Loans to Municipalities. Chapter 53 (SB 471) allows the state to make a loan to a municipality in an amount up to the anticipated assistance from the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) when the municipality has applied for assistance from FEMA because of damage resulting from a natural disaster. A municipality is eligible only if the cost of its critical disaster relief project or projects equals or exceeds 25 percent of the amount raised by local property taxes in the municipality's last annual budget. The amount of the loan is to be repaid within 15 days after receipt of funding from FEMA; if the amount of FEMA assistance is less than the amount of the loan, the state treasurer will negotiate terms of repayment of the difference. Statute added: RSA 21-P:37-c. E.D. July 14, 2018.

Revolving Funds for Group Net Metering. Chapter 58 (HB 1202) allows a town to establish a revolving fund to facilitate transactions relative to municipal group net metering. Statute amended: RSA 31:95-h. E.D. July 24, 2018.

Bonds for Broadband Infrastructure. Chapter 118 (SB 170) expands the authority of a municipality to issue bonds for the development of broadband infrastructure. Under the new law, a municipality may issue bonds for infrastructure to serve any "location" not served by broadband. Before doing so, it must issue a request for information to all providers of broadband serving the municipality and allow them two months to respond. The municipality may then issue a request for proposals for a public-private partnership for the deployment of broadband infrastructure and provision of broadband service. If the municipality determines that no provider has met the criteria in its request for proposals, it may issue bonds for broadband infrastructure without entering into a public-private partnership. Statutes amended: RSA 33:1, 33:3, 33:3-c, 33:3-g, 33-B:1, 38:38, 38:40. Statute repealed: RSA 38:38, I(b). E.D. July 29, 2018. NHMA POLICY.

Municipal Liability for Personal Injuries. Chapter 125 (SB 387) increases the statutory limits on the liability of municipalities for bodily injury, personal injury, or property damage to \$325,000 per person (from \$275,000) and \$1 million per occurrence (from \$925,000). The changes reflect inflation since the last time the limits were increased, in 2007. The chapter also makes technical changes to the law governing municipal liability. Statutes amended: RSA 507-B, various sections; 99-D:3; 541-B:14, I. E.D. May 30, 2018.

Exception to Sunday Work Rules for Youth Skill Camps. Chapter 131 (SB 417) exempts recreation camps and youth skill camps from the limitations on requiring employees to work on Sundays. Statute amended: RSA 275:35. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Deadline for Payment of Wages. Chapter 133 (SB 428) requires employers to pay all wages due to employees within eight days after expiration of the work week if the employee is paid weekly, or within 15 days if the employee is paid biweekly. The old law merely required that all wages be paid "at regular intervals not to exceed 14 days." Statute amended: RSA 275:43, I. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Sale of Tax-Deeded Property. Chapter 149 (SB 504) provides that when a municipality's legislative body has authorized the governing body to dispose of tax-deeded property other than by public auction or sealed bid, "as justice may require," that authorization includes engaging a real estate agent or broker to list and sell the property or selling undeveloped parcels to abutters for consolidation into adjoining lots. It also requires that the governing body first make an affirmative finding that disposal by a method other than sealed bid or public auction is in the public interest. Statute amended: RSA 80:80. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Workers' Compensation for Prophylactic Treatment for Exposure. Chapter 166 (HB 407) requires workers' compensation to cover all expenses associated with the medical evaluation and recommended post-exposure prophylaxis treatment for emergency response and public safety workers who have been exposed to blood, bodily fluids, or other potentially infectious material that are capable of transmitting a bloodborne or airborne disease. Statute amended: RSA 281-A:2, :23. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Discrimination Based on Gender Identity Prohibited. Chapter 176 (HB 1319) prohibits discrimination based on gender identity with respect to certain matters, including employment, housing, and access to public accommodations. It applies to all political subdivisions as employers. "Gender identity" is defined as "a person's gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance, or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth." Statute amended: RSA 354-A, multiple sections. E.D. July 8, 2018.

Regulation of Forestry Activities Limited. Chapter 179 (HB 1402) requires a municipality, before enacting any ordinance, rule, or regulation that is likely to affect forestry activities, to consider the possible adverse effects on forestry activities and take any steps that are reasonably available to minimize those effects. It also prohibits a municipality from enacting any ordinance, rule, or regulation that applies only to forestry activities and that adversely affects such activities. The new law does not limit municipal authority to regulate forestry activities under duly adopted land use ordinances and regulations, subject to existing provisions of law protecting forestry activities. Statutes added: RSA 31:39-e, 47:17-a. E.D. June 8, 2018.

Timber Yield Tax Changes. Chapter 182 (HB 1473) authorizes a municipality to waive the timber yield tax when the harvesting is conducted on land owned by, and located in, the municipality. It also reduces from 30 days to 15 days the time for assessing officials to sign an intent to cut when all conditions for approval have been met and eliminates the requirement for filing a supplemental intent to cut when the total volume harvested exceeds the total volume reported in the intent to cut by less than 25 percent. Supplemental intents to cut must be filed in all cases where a bond is required under RSA 79:3-a or RSA 79:10-a, II regardless of the amount by which the volume of the harvest exceeds the volume reported in the intent to cut. Assessing officials may sign an intent to cut outside a public meeting, but public notice must be posted before any intent to cut is signed. Statute amended: RSA 79:3-b and RSA 79:10, I(a) and (b). E.D. September 1, 2018.

Exemption from Raffle Permit Requirement. Chapter 239 (HB 1276) exempts a charitable organization from the requirement to obtain a raffle permit from the municipality's governing body if the raffle tickets are sold at an event lasting 12 hours or less. Statute amended: RSA 287-A:3, :7. E.D. August 11, 2018.

Definition of "Contracts" for Default Budget Calculation. Chapter 241 (HB 1307) adds a definition of "contracts" to be used in calculating the default budget in official ballot referendum (SB 2) municipalities and school districts. Current law defines the default budget as the amount of the prior year's appropriations, adjusted for debt service, contracts, and obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures. The new law limits "contracts" to only those contracts "previously approved, and in the amount so approved, by the legislative body in either the operating budget authorized for the previous year or . . . a separate warrant article for a previous year." It also clarifies that explanation, discussion, and debate of both the operating budget and the default budget are to occur at the first (i.e. deliberative) session of the town meeting. Statute amended: RSA 40:13, IV. Statute added: RSA 40:13, IX (c). E.D. August 11, 2018.

Minutes Must Indicate Who Made and Seconded Motions. Chapter 244 (HB 1347) amends the Right-to-Know Law to require that minutes of public body meetings record the names of the members who made or seconded each motion. Statute amended: RSA 91-A:2, II. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Budget Committee Vote Tallies on Warrant. Chapter 246 (HB 1392) authorizes a municipal budget committee established under RSA 32:14 to require that its vote tallies on warrant articles be printed next to the affected articles if the town or school district has not voted to require the printing of such tallies. Under prior law, only the governing body could print its vote tallies on the warrant if the town or school district had not voted to require the same. Statute amended: RSA 32:5, V-a. E.D. August 11, 2018.

Shorter Retention Period for Personnel Records. Chapter 247 (HB 1450) reduces the required retention period for municipal personnel files and successful job applications to 20 years after retirement or termination. The previous requirement was 50 years after retirement or termination. Statute amended: RSA 33-A:3-a, LX and XCVI. E.D. August 11, 2018. NHMA POLICY.

Commission to Study Workers' Compensation for PTSD. Chapter 261 (SB 553) establishes a commission to study various issues relative to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in first responders, including workers' compensation coverage for PTSD and the cost of creating a rebuttable presumption that PTSD was caused during service in the line of duty. The commission includes a representative of NHMA. Statute added: RSA 281-A:17. E.D. June 12, 2018.

Litigation Procedure Under Right-to-Know Law. Chapter 289 (HB 252) provides that in any superior court action under the Right-to-Know Law, all documents filed with the petition and any response to it will be considered as evidence by the court, subject to objection by either party, and all documents submitted must be provided to the opposing party prior to a hearing on the merits. Although the title of the bill is "relative to pro se litigants under the right-to-know law," it applies to all parties, whether pro se or otherwise. Statute amended: RSA 91-A:7. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Posting and Notice Requirements for Employers; Youth Employment. Chapter 312 (SB 318) makes several minor changes to the laws regarding youth employment, employers' posting of notices relative to employee rights, and employer record retention. Statutes added or amended: RSA 273:9-a; RSA 275 multiple sections; RSA 276-A multiple sections; RSA 279:27. E.D. June 25, 2018.

Cancer Presumption for Firefighters Under Workers' Compensation. Chapter 369 (SB 541) amends the law (previously declared unconstitutional by the New Hampshire Supreme Court) that creates a presumption that certain cancers experienced by firefighters are work-related and compensable under workers' compensation. The new law limits the circumstances under which the presumption applies and requires the firefighter and the fire department to satisfy new requirements for the presumption to apply. Statute amended: RSA 281-A:17, II. E.D. July 10, 2018.

IV. PLANNING AND ZONING

Regulation of Small Wind Energy Systems. Chapter 2 (HB 337) prohibits a municipality from setting a noise level limit for a small wind energy system that is lower than the limit specified by rules of the site evaluation committee, as measured at the site's property line. The prior law prohibited setting a limit lower than 55 decibels. Current SEC rules state that "the A-weighted equivalent sound levels produced by the applicant's energy facility during operations shall not exceed the greater of 45 dBA or 5 dBA above background levels, measured at the L-90 sound level, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. each day, and the greater of 40 dBAor 5 dBA above background levels, measured at the L-90 sound level, at all other times during each day." Statute amended: RSA 674:63. E.D. March 27, 2018.

Municipalities Must Use State Definition of Agritourism. Chapter 56 (SB 412) prohibits a municipality from adopting "an ordinance, bylaw, definition, or policy regarding agritourism activities that conflicts with the definition of agritourism in RSA 21:34-a." It also gives the commissioner of agriculture authority to "adjudicate disputes concerning activities that constitute agritourism." However, the commissioner's authority is expressly limited to "the question of whether or not a municipality's ordinance, bylaw, definition, or policy on agritourism conflicts with RSA 21:34-a." An applicant may petition the commissioner for a declaratory ruling either before filing a land use application with a municipality or after an application is denied. A party aggrieved by the commissioner's ruling may request reconsideration within 20 days and may appeal to the New Hampshire Supreme Court after the decision on reconsideration. Statutes amended: 674:32-b, 425:4. E.D. July 15, 2018.

Termination of Unexercised Variances and Special Exceptions. Chapter 75 (HB 1533) allows a municipality to amend its zoning ordinance to provide for the termination of unexercised variances and special exceptions that were granted before August 19, 2013, which was the effective date of the law providing that variances and special exceptions are valid if exercised within two years. Under the new law, once an ordinance is amended to provide for the termination of unexercised approvals, the planning board must post notice of the termination in the city or town hall. The notice must state that variances and/or special exceptions granted before August 19, 2013, are scheduled to terminate, but will be valid if exercised within two years after the expiration date of the notice. Statute amended: RSA 674:33, I-a and IV. E.D. July 24, 2018.

Notice of Crematory Construction. Chapter 150 (SB 505) requires any person intending to construct a crematory to provide notice to all owners of property within 250 feet of the proposed crematory upon application for a building permit. The notice must be given by verified mail. The municipality is not required to give any additional notice. Statute amended: RSA 325-A:3. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Consistent Method for Voting on Variances. Chapter 168 (HB 1215) requires that a zoning board of adjustment use one method consistently for voting on all variance applications. The board may change its voting method, but any change may not take effect until 60 days after the board has voted to adopt the change and may not apply to any application that has been filed and remains pending at the time of the change. Statute amended: RSA 674:33, I and V. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Local Regulation of Seeds and Fertilizer Preempted. Chapter 169 (HB 1233) prohibits municipalities from regulating the sale or use of agricultural seeds. It does not limit local authority to adopt and enforce land use ordinances and regulations, including the authority to require native plantings and combat invasive species as part of a planning board's site plan review or subdivision authority or as a condition of a variance or special exception. It also prohibits local regulation of the types of fertilizer used for agricultural purposes—but does not preempt regulation of other aspects of the use of fertilizer, such as the amount or manner of application. Statutes added or amended: RSA 433:7-a, 431:4-d. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Regulation of Forestry Activities Limited. Chapter 179 (HB 1402) requires a municipality, before enacting any ordinance, rule, or regulation that is likely to affect forestry activities, to consider the possible adverse effects on forestry activities and take any steps that are reasonably available to minimize those effects. It also prohibits a municipality from enacting any ordinance, rule, or regulation that applies only to forestry activities and that adversely affects such activities. The new law does not limit municipal authority to regulate forestry activities under duly adopted land use ordinances and regulations, subject to existing provisions of law protecting forestry activities. Statutes added: RSA 31:39-c, 47:17-a. E.D. June 8, 2018.

Three Votes Required for Any ZBA Action. Chapter 214 (SB 339) requires the concurring vote of any three members of a zoning board of adjustment "to take any action on any matter on which it is required to pass." Previous law required three votes only to "reverse any action of the administrative official or to decide in favor of the applicant." Statute amended: RSA 674:33, III. E.D. August 7, 2018.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION AND PROTECTION; SOLID/ HAZARDOUS WASTE

Commission on Non-Tidal Public Waterways. Chapter 95 (HB 1810) establishes a commission to study the effectiveness of the current statutes related to management of non-tidal public waterways and the construction or placement of structures within them. The commission includes a representative of a waterfront community appointed by NHMA. Statute added: RSA 482-A:35. E.D. May 25, 2018.

Cutting Timber Near Class VI Highways. Chapter 137 (SB 444) excepts class VI highways from the statutory prohibition on cutting more than 50 percent of the basal area of trees within 150 feet of "any public highway" during a 12-month period. Statute amended: RSA 227-J:9. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Local Regulation of Seeds and Fertilizer Preempted. Chapter 169 (HB 1233) prohibits municipalities from regulating the sale or use of agricultural seeds. It does not limit local authority to adopt and enforce land use ordinances and regulations, including the authority to require native plantings and combat invasive species as part of a planning board's site plan review or subdivision authority or as a condition of a variance or special exception. It also prohibits local regulation of the types of fertilizer used for agricultural purposes—but does not preempt regulation of other aspects of the use of fertilizer, such as the amount or manner of application. Statutes added or amended: RSA 433:7-a, 431:4-d. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Reports on Contaminant Testing and Monitoring. Chapter 306 (HB 1766) requires the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to issue reports at six-month intervals on the results of monitoring, testing, and any other analysis of data relative to certain perfluoro-chemical levels (known as PFOS and PFOA) at sites that have been identified as sources of those contaminants, and at landfills, hazardous waste sites, and other sites statewide where testing is required. The initial report is due December 1, 2018. It also requires the respective House and Senate policy committees to collect and evaluate the reports along with other reports and data, and to solicit information from commissions, informed citizens, and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Statute amended: None. E.D. July 1, 2018.

Commission on Delegation of NPDES Authority. Chapter 320 (SB 450) establishes a commission to propose legislation for the delegation of authority for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to the Department of Environmental Services. Authority for administration and enforcement of NPDES currently rests with the federal Environmental Protection Agency. New Hampshire is one of only a few states where authority has not been delegated to the state agency. The commission is charged with analyzing the costs and other aspects of delegating authority to the state agency, but it will not be formed until October 1, 2019. The commission includes three members appointed by NHMA, representing affected water and sewer facilities. Its final report is due March 1, 2020. Statute added: RSA 149-Q. E.D. October 1, 2019.

Water Quality Standards. Chapter 368 (SB 309) amends several statutes and adds new statutes relative to standards for perflourochemicals in drinking water, ambient groundwater and surface water. It requires the commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services (DES), by January 1, 2019, to initiate rules regarding maximum contaminant levels of these chemicals in drinking water and ambient groundwater by considering the ability to detect and remove the contaminant along with the costs and benefits to affected parties. It establishes new requirements regarding contaminant impacts on soil and water resulting from air emissions and requires DES to submit a plan by January 1, 2020 regarding surface water standards for specific chemicals. It also appropriates funding to DES for a toxicologist and a health risk assessor. Statutes added or amended: RSA 125-C:4, 125-C:10, 485:1, 485:3, 485:16-e, and 485-C:6. E.D. July 10, 2018, for water quality standards and September 8, 2018, for air emissions.

VI. PUBLIC SAFETY; POLICE; FIRE; BUILDING/HEALTH INSPECTION

Revolving Funds for Fire Service. Chapter 30 (HB 1303) authorizes a town to establish a revolving fund for the purpose of providing fire service, or both fire and ambulance service. Statute amended: RSA 31:95-h. E.D. July 14, 2018.

School Emergency Response Plans. Chapter 35 (HB 1370) requires, among other things, that each public and nonpublic school provide its emergency response plan to local emergency authorities in the municipality in which the school is located. Statute amended: RSA 189:64. E.D. July 14, 2018.

Event Tents Must Comply with State Codes. Chapter 39 (HB 1421) requires "event tents" erected on public or private property to comply with applicable provisions of the state building and fire codes and preempts additional regulation of such tents by municipalities. It further states that a building permit shall not be required for a tent of any size erected as an accessory structure to an owner-occupied one- or two-family dwelling. Statutes amended: RSA 155:20, 155-A:2. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Trespass by Domestic Fowl; Local Officials Must Enforce. Chapter 60 (HB 1289) makes the owner of domestic fowl guilty of a violation if the owner knowingly, recklessly, or negligently permits the domestic fowl to enter another person's land and injure that person's crops or property. It also requires law enforcement officials or local animal control officers, upon complaint, to enforce the law relative to trespassing stock or domestic fowl. Statute amended: RSA 645:3. E.D. July 24, 2018.

Background Checks for Emergency Medical Care Providers. Chapter 88 (HB 1684) modifies the process for completing a criminal history record check for an applicant for licensure as an emergency medical care provider and exempts an applicant from the criminal history record check requirement if the applicant is employed as a law enforcement officer in a position that requires a criminal history record check. Statute amended: RSA 153-A:10-a. E.D. July 24, 2018.

Committee to Study Ambulance Billing and Payments. Chapter 94 (HB 1782) establishes a committee to study insurance payments to ambulance provider and balance billing by ambulance providers. Statute amended: None. E.D. May 25, 2018.

Notice of Crematory Construction. Chapter 150 (SB 505) requires any person intending to construct a crematory to provide notice to all owners of property within 250 feet of the proposed crematory upon application for a building permit. The notice must be given by verified mail. The municipality is not required to give any additional notice. Statute amended: RSA 325-A:3. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Motorcycle-Only Checkpoints Prohibited. Chapter 153 (SB 516) prohibits law enforcement officers and agencies from establishing or conducting motorcycle-only checkpoints. Statute added: RSA 265:1-b. E.D. May 30, 2018.

Release of Criminal Conviction Records to Defendant or Counsel. Chapter 173 (HB 1265) permits the release of criminal conviction records to a defendant in a criminal proceeding or to counsel for the defendant. Statute amended: RSA 106-B:14, I-a. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Compliance with Energy Provisions of Building Code. Chapter 181 (HB 1472) requires the state building code review board to publish a simplified residential energy code compliance form based on the energy provisions in the International Residential Code and the International Energy

Conservation Code. The completed form is to be used to verify that the applicable project meets the code requirements. The chapter also repeals RSA 155-D, relative to energy conservation in new building construction. Statutes added, repealed: RSA 155-A:10-a, 155-D. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Access to Motor Vehicle Accident Reports. Chapter 256 (SB 398) allows the release of a motor vehicle accident report to the authorized legal representative of a person to whom the report could be released directly. Statutes amended: RSA 260:14, VII-a, 264:25. E.D. August 11, 2018.

Commission to Study Workers' Compensation for PTSD. Chapter 261 (SB 553) establishes a commission to study various issues relative to post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) in first responders, including workers' compensation coverage for PTSD and the cost of creating a rebuttable presumption that PTSD was caused during service in the line of duty. The commission includes a representative of NHMA. Statute added: RSA 281-A:17. E.D. June 12, 2018.

Committee to Study Adoption of Building and Fire Codes. Chapter 294 (HB 1254) establishes a committee to study the procedures for adopting national codes as part of the state building code and state fire code. It also imposes a moratorium on the adoption of any amendment to the state building or fire code between July 1 and November 1, 2018, unless legislation is brought forth based on the recommendations of the study committee, in which case the moratorium will continue in effect until the legislation has been enacted or rejected. Statutes amended: None. E.D. June 25, 2018.

Criminal Record Release Form Need Not Be Notarized. Chapter 318 (SB 386) allows an authorized person to request and receive a copy of another person's criminal history record without requiring that the subject person's authorization be notarized. Statutes amended: Many, including RSA 31:102-b, 41:9-b, 126-X:4, 153-A:10-a, 189:13-a. E.D. August 14, 2018.

Written Policy for Police Lineups Required. Chapter 347 (HB 1329) requires any law enforcement agency that conducts "photo lineups, live lineups, or show-ups" (as defined in the new law) to adopt a written policy on the conduct of such procedures. The policy must conform to the standards and procedures established by the attorney general and as contained in the latest version of the law enforcement manual pertaining to pretrial identification procedure. Statute added: RSA 595-C. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact. Chapter 359 (SB 370) adopts the emergency medical services personnel licensure interstate compact. Statute amended: RSA 153-A. E.D. August 31, 2018.

Cancer Presumption for Firefighters Under Workers' Compensation. Chapter 369 (SB 541) amends the law (previously declared unconstitutional by the New Hampshire Supreme Court) that creates a presumption that certain cancers experienced by firefighters are work-related and compensable under workers' compensation. The new law limits the circumstances under which the presumption applies and requires the firefighter and the fire department to satisfy new requirements for the presumption to apply. Statute amended: RSA 281-A:17, II. E.D. July 10, 2018.

VII. PUBLIC WORKS; WATER & SEWER; ROADS AND HIGHWAYS; AIRPORTS; RAILS

Regulation of Electronic Personal Assistive Mobility Devices. Chapter 20 (HB 492) expands the definition of electronic personal assistive mobility devices (EPAMDs) (previously limited to devices like Segways) so that it now includes scooters and wheelchairs. It also requires that EPAMDs remain on the right side "as far as practicable" when operated on a public way, repeals the 15 miles-per-hour speed limit for EPAMDs, and repeals a provision authorizing municipalities to regulate EPAMDs within their limits. Statutes amended or repealed: RSA 269, various sections. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Committee to Study Use of Liquid De-Icers and Solid Salt. Chapter 84 (HB 1651) establishes a committee to study the use of brine, liquid calcium chloride, other liquid de-icers, and solid salt to remove ice from highways and roads, including the effect of such de-icers on vehicles and the environment. Statute amended: None. E.D. May 25, 2018.

Non-Menace Dams Retain Status Until Conditions Change. Chapter 119 (SB 172) states that a dam that was classified as a non-menace structure as of February 20, 1981, will retain that status until the Department of Environmental Services determines that conditions downstream have changed to warrant reclassification or until reconstruction of the dam that requires a permit is needed. Statute amended: RSA 482:12. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Cutting Timber Near Class VI Highways. Chapter 137 (SB 444) excepts class VI highways from the statutory prohibition on cutting more than 50 percent of the basal area of trees within 150 feet of "any public highway" during a 12-month period. Statute amended: RSA 227-J:9. E.D. January 1, 2019.

State and Municipal Bridge Aid. Chapter 162 (HB 1817) funded a variety of programs from the anticipated \$100 million surplus for the state fiscal year ending June 30, 2018, including \$10 million to the state's revenue stabilization reserve account (also known as the rainy-day fund). Section 25 appropriated \$20 million to the Department of Transportation for state red-list bridge projects and \$10.4 million as state bridge aid for municipally-owned high-traffic-volume bridge projects. Statute amended: None for reserve account and bridge funding. E.D. June 6, 2018.

Ambient Groundwater Standard for Arsenic. Chapter 190 (HB 1592) requires the Department of Environmental Services to review the ambient groundwater standard for arsenic to determine whether it should be lowered, taking into consideration the extent to which arsenic is found in New Hampshire, the ability to detect it in public water systems, the ability to remove it from drinking water, the impact on public health, and the costs and benefits that will result from changing the standard. A report of the department's findings is to be filed on or before January 1, 2019. Any proposed change to the standard requires approval of the general court. Statute amended: None. E.D. June 8, 2018.

Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 237 (HB 124) modifies aircraft registration and operating fees and distributes \$250,000 of the fees collected per year to public use airports (mostly municipal airports) where the aircraft are based. Statutes amended: RSA 422:20, 422:31, and 422:36. E.D. July 1, 2018.

Drinking Water Grants and Fluoride in Municipal Water Systems. Chapter 258 (SB 453) transfers administration of the application, selection and approval processes for awarding Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund grants from the Department of Environmental Services to the trust fund advisory commission established under RSA 485-F:4 and adds privately owned water utilities that are public water systems to the list of those eligible for grants. It also provides that the referendum requirement for introducing fluoride into a public water system does not apply when a public water system receives fluoridated water from another public water system. Rather, the receiving system is required to provide to users a written notice approved by DES before receiving the fluoridated water. Statutes amended: RSA 485-F:3, 485-F:4,485:14. E.D. August 11, 2018.

Aircraft Registration Fees. Chapter 287 (SB 565) is identical to chapter 237 (HB 124), above.

Rail Transit Authority Repealed; Transportation Council Established. Chapter 291 (HB 267) repeals the New Hampshire Rail Transit Authority and establishes the New Hampshire Transportation Council. The council's duties are to study methods of implementing new transportation technologies and modes of transportation and the logistics of such technologies and modes; to investigate methods of encouraging investment in new technologies for transportation; and to make recommendations to appropriate state agencies or committees of the legislature. Statute amended: RSA 238-A. E.D. August 24, 2018.

Commission on Delegation of NPDES Authority. Chapter 320 (SB 450) establishes a commission to propose legislation for the delegation of authority for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) to the Department of Environmental Services. Authority for administration and enforcement of NPDES currently rests with the federal Environmental Protection Agency. New Hampshire is one of only a few states where authority has not been delegated to the state agency. The commission is charged with analyzing the costs and other aspects of delegating authority to the state agency, but it will not be formed until October 1, 2019. The commission includes three members appointed by NHMA, representing affected water and sewer facilities. Its final report is due March 1, 2020. Statute added: RSA 149-Q. E.D. October 1, 2019.

Compact Sections May Be Established in Any Municipality by Agreement. Chapter 327 (SB 512) authorizes the commissioner of transportation to establish compact sections to create class IV highways in any municipality by agreement with the municipality. Prior law authorized the establishment of compact sections only in specifically identified municipalities. Statute amended: RSA 229:5, V. E.D. August 24, 2018.

Ten-Year Transportation Plan; Committee to Study Driveway Permitting. Chapter 358 (HB 2018) adopts the state 10-year transportation improvement program and establishes a committee to study the processing of driveway permits under RSA 236:13. Statutes amended: None. E.D. July 2, 2018.

Water Quality Standards. Chapter 368 (SB 309) amends several statutes and adds new statutes relative to standards for perflourochemicals in drinking water, ambient groundwater and surface water. It requires the commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services (DES), by January 1, 2019, to initiate rules regarding maximum contaminant levels of these chemicals in drinking

water and ambient groundwater by considering the ability to detect and remove the contaminant along with the costs and benefits to affected parties. It establishes new requirements regarding contaminant impacts on soil and water resulting from air emissions and requires DES to submit a plan by January 1, 2020 regarding surface water standards for specific chemicals. It also appropriates funding to DES for a toxicologist and a health risk assessor. Statutes added or amended: RSA 125-C:4, 125-C:10, 485:1, 485:3, 485:16-e, and 485-C:6. E.D. July 10, 2018, for water quality standards and September 8, 2018, for air emissions.

VIII. TAXES; ASSESSING AND COLLECTIONS; EXEMPTIONS; CURRENT USE

DRA Assessment Report. Chapter 50 (SB 340) requires the Department of Revenue Administration, as part of its municipal assessment monitoring, to separately categorize compliance with findings that test current assessing practices since the year of the prior assessment report, examine permanent records, and summarize compliance in a single conclusion statement. Statute added: RSA 21-J:11-a, IV. E.D. July 14, 2018.

Maximum Disabled Veterans' Credit Increased. Chapter 105 (SB 341) increases the maximum amount of the optional veterans' tax credit for service-connected disability to \$4,000 (from \$2,000). Statute amended: RSA 72:35, I-a. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Maximum Optional Veterans' Credit Increased. Chapter 148 (SB 503) increases the maximum amount of the local optional veterans' tax credit to \$750 (from \$500). Statute amended: RSA 72:28, II. E.D. April 1, 2018.

Sale of Tax-Deeded Property. Chapter 149 (SB 504) provides that when a municipality's legislative body has authorized the governing body to dispose of tax-deeded property other than by public auction or sealed bid, "as justice may require," that authorization includes engaging a real estate agent or broker to list and sell the property or selling undeveloped parcels to abutters for consolidation into adjoining lots. It also requires that the governing body first make an affirmative finding that disposal by a method other than sealed bid or public auction is in the public interest. Statute amended: RSA 80:80. E.D. July 29, 2018.

Optional Tax Credit for Combat Service. Chapter 151 (SB 511) establishes a new local option property tax credit for members of the New Hampshire National Guard and United States armed forces engaged at any point during the taxable year in combat service. The credit may be an amount from \$50 to \$500. An individual must have been a resident of New Hampshire at least one year preceding April 1 of the year in which the tax credit is claimed and must provide military orders and other information necessary to verify the dates of combat service. A municipality may adopt the optional combat service credit pursuant to the procedures provided in RSA 72:27-a. Statute added: RSA 72:28-c. Statutes amended: various sections of RSA 72. E.D. January 1, 2019.

Timber Yield Tax Changes. Chapter 182 (HB 1473) authorizes a municipality to waive the timber yield tax when the harvesting is conducted on land owned by, and located in, the municipality. It also reduces from 30 days to 15 days the time for assessing officials to sign an intent to cut when all conditions for approval have been met and eliminates the requirement for filing a supplemental intent to cut when the total volume harvested exceeds the total volume reported in the intent to cut by less than 25 percent. Supplemental intents to cut must be filed in all cases where a bond is required under RSA 79:3-a or RSA 79:10-a, II regardless of the amount by which the volume of the harvest exceeds the volume reported in the intent to cut. Assessing officials may sign an intent to cut outside a public meeting, but public notice must be posted before any intent to cut is signed. Statute amended: RSA 79:3-b and RSA 79:10, I(a) and (b). E.D. September 1, 2018.

Notice of Leases on Tax-Exempt Property. Chapter 232 (SB 510) requires the state or any political subdivision that owns property and leases it to others to file a written notice with the assessing officials annually, on or before April 15, along with a copy of the lease or other agreement. Statute amended: RSA 72:23, I(b)(1). E.D. January 1, 2019.

Commission to Study Utility Property Valuation. Chapter 238 (HB 324) establishes a commission to study utility property valuation and recommend legislation to reform the current system of taxing utility property in New Hampshire. The commission includes a representative of municipalities, appointed by NHMA, and is to issue its final report by November 1, 2018. Statute added: RSA 72:12-e. E.D. June 12, 2018.

Interest on Delinquent Taxes. Chapter 282 (HB 1673) lowers the interest rates on delinquent property taxes from twelve percent to eight percent pre-lien and from eighteen percent to fourteen percent post-lien. These lower interest rates apply to taxes assessed on or after April 1, 2019. It also changes the application period for a prorated assessment on a building damaged by fire to within 60 days of the fire, or by March 1, whichever is later. Statutes amended: RSA 76:13, 76:15-aa, 76:21, 80:32, 80:37, 80:69, and 80:75. E.D. April 1, 2019 for interest rates and January 1, 2019 for damaged property application.

Taxation of Recreational Vehicles. Chapter 296 (HB 1356) clarifies that notwithstanding RSA 75:3, a campground owner is not responsible for payment of any taxes imposed on recreational vehicles located at the campground, except for vehicles owned by the campground owner. Statute amended: RSA 72:7-d. E.D. June 25, 2018.

IX. WELFARE; EDUCATION; LIBRARIES; HUMAN SERVICES; HOUSING; CEMETERIES

Information About Location of Historic Burial Grounds. Chapter 3 (SB 132) authorizes cemetery trustees to provide information about the location of historic burial grounds and cemeteries to non-governmental organizations for inclusion in their on-line and other databases. Statute added: RSA 289:14-b. E.D. April 9, 2018.

Expanded Medicaid Program Extended. Chapter 342 (SB 313) extends the state's expanded Medicaid program through 2023, subject to a number of changes. Statutes added or amended: RSA 126-AA, 400-A:32, 404-G:5-a, 176:16, 176-A:1, 404-G: 1 and 2, 420-J:5-a, 400-A:39, 6:12. E.D. December 31, 2018; repeal date December 31, 2023.

X. UTILITIES

Bonds for Broadband Infrastructure. Chapter 118 (SB 170) expands the authority of a municipality to issue bonds for the development of broadband infrastructure. Under the new law, a municipality may issue bonds for infrastructure to serve any "location" not served by broadband. Before doing so, it must issue a request for information to all providers of broadband serving the municipality and allow them two months to respond. The municipality may then issue a request for proposals for a public-private partnership for the deployment of broadband infrastructure and provision of broadband service. If the municipality determines that no provider has met the criteria in its request for proposals, it may issue bonds for broadband infrastructure without entering into a public-private partnership. Statutes amended: RSA 33:1, 33:3, 33:3-c, 33:3-g, 33-B:1, 38:38, 38:40. Statute repealed: RSA 38:38, I(b). E.D. July 29, 2018. NHMA POLICY.

Net Energy Metering Group Host Customers. Chapter 212 (SB 321) repeals the requirement that net energy metering group host customers be default service customers of the same electric distribution utility as the host and the requirement that group hosts be responsible for any costs necessary to upgrade a utility's information systems to implement group net metering. Statute amended: RSA 362-A:9, XIV. E.D. July 24, 2018 for repeal of default service customer requirement; August 7, 2018 for repeal of cost requirement.

County Government Within Municipal Utility Service Area. Chapter 225 (SB 443) provides that if a county government is located within the service territory of a municipal electric utility established before July 1, 1997, which does not voluntarily unbundle its rates and allow open access to competitive retail electric supply markets, as permitted but not required by RSA 38:34, the county shall have access to such markets and may negotiate competitive unbundled rates. Statute amended: RSA 23:1-a. E.D. August 7, 2018.

Commission to Study Utility Property Valuation. Chapter 238 (HB 324) establishes a commission to study utility property valuation and recommend legislation to reform the current system of taxing utility property in New Hampshire. The commission includes a representative of municipalities, appointed by NHMA, and is to issue its final report by November 1, 2018. Statute added: RSA 72:12-e. E.D. June 12, 2018.

XI. EDUCATION FUNDING

Adequate Education Grants to Certain Municipalities. Chapter 8 (SB 539) appropriates \$1,483,428 to the Department of Education to provide additional adequate education grants to certain municipalities, representing amounts distributable based on non-proficient reading scores that were not distributed during fiscal years 2016 and 2017. Statute amended: None. E.D. April 18, 2018.

(Section XI— Continued from Page 22)

Public School Infrastructure Fund. Chapter 349 (HB 1415) appropriates \$10 million for the biennium ending June 30, 2019 to the public school infrastructure fund as additional funding for school security improvements under the school emergency readiness program. It also establishes a death benefit for any school employee killed in the line of duty. Statute added: RSA 189-A. E.D. July 2, 2018, for funding and January 1, 2019, for death benefit.

XII. SPECIAL ACTS

Hampton Special Town Meeting Authorized. Chapter 117 (HB 1546) authorizes the Town of Hampton to hold a special town meeting without judicial authorization for the sole purpose of authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes necessary to pay for replacement of two sewer lines, one of which ruptured in late March 2018. Statute amended: None. E.D. May 30, 2018.

2018 FINAL LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN CROSS REFERENCE (CHAPTER LAW TO HOUSE OR SENATE BILL NUMBER)

CHAPTER	BILL	PAGE		CHAPTER	BILL	PAGE
LAW	NUMBER	NUMBER(S)		LAW	NUMBER	NUMBER(S)
OL 3	UD 227	42	000000	Ch 470	110 4400	
Ch. 2	HB 337	13		Ch. 179	HB 1402	11, 14
Ch. 3	SB 132	21		Ch. 181	HB 1472	16
Ch. 8	SB 539	22		Ch. 182	HB 1473	11, 21
Ch. 20	HB 492	18		Ch. 190	HB 1592	18
Ch. 21	HB 523	9		Ch. 203	HB 1805	8
Ch. 30	HB 1303	10, 15		Ch. 212	SB 321	22
Ch. 35	HB 1370	16		Ch. 214	SB 339	14
Ch. 39	HB 1421	16		Ch. 225	SB 443	22
Ch. 48	HB 1823	8		Ch. 232	SB 510	21
Ch. 50	SB 340	20		Ch. 237	HB 124	9, 18
Ch. 53	SB 471	10		Ch. 238	HB 324	21, 22
Ch. 56	SB 412	13		Ch. 239	HB 1276	11
Ch. 58	HB 1202	10		Ch. 241	HB 1307	7, 12
Ch. 60	HB 1289	16		Ch. 244	HB 1347	12
Ch. 75	HB 1533	13		Ch. 246	HB 1392	7, 12
Ch. 84	HB 1651	18		Ch. 247	HB 1450	12
Ch. 88	HB 1684	16		Ch. 256	SB 398	17
Ch. 94	HB 1782	16		Ch. 258	SB 453	19
Ch. 95	HB 1810	14		Ch. 261	SB 553	12, 17
Ch. 100	SB 320	7		Ch. 282	HB 1673	21
Ch. 101	SB 324	8		Ch. 287	SB 565	9, 19
Ch. 105	SB 341	20		Ch. 289	HB 252	12
Ch. 117	HB 1546	23		Ch. 291	HB 267	19
Ch. 118	SB 170	10, 22		Ch. 293	HB 561	9
Ch. 119	SB 172	18		Ch. 294	HB 1254	17
Ch. 125	SB 387	10		Ch. 296	HB 1356	21
Ch. 131	SB 417	10		Ch. 304	HB 1756	9
Ch. 133	SB 428	10		Ch. 306	HB 1766	15
Ch. 137	SB 444	14, 18		Ch. 312	SB 318	12
Ch. 148	SB 503	20		Ch. 313	SB 342	7
Ch. 149	SB 504	11, 20		Ch. 318	SB 386	17
Ch. 150	SB 505	13, 16		Ch. 320	SB 450	15, 19
Ch. 151	SB 511	20		Ch. 325	SB 506	8
Ch. 152	SB 515	7		Ch. 327	SB 512	19
Ch. 153	SB 516	16		Ch. 329	SB 527	8
Ch. 162	HB 1817	8, 18		Ch. 342	SB 313	22
Ch. 165	HB 390	7		Ch. 347	HB 1329	17
Ch. 166	HB 407	11		Ch. 349	HB 1415	23
Ch. 168	HB 1215	14		Ch. 358	HB 2018	19
Ch. 169	HB 1233	14, 15		Ch. 359	SB 370	17
Ch. 173	HB 1265	16		Ch. 368	SB 309	15, 19
Ch. 176	HB 1319	11		Ch. 369	SB 541	13, 17

2018 FINAL LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN CROSS REFERENCE (HOUSE OR SENATE BILL NUMBER TO CHAPTER LAW)

BILL	CHAPTER	PAGE	BILL	CHAPTER	PAGE
NUMBER	LAW	NUMBER(S)	NUMBER	LAW	NUMBER(S)
LID 404	OL 227		LID 4047	OL 450	
HB 124	Ch. 237	9, 18	HB 1817	Ch. 162	8, 18
HB 252	Ch. 289	12	HB 1823	Ch. 48	8
HB 267	Ch. 291	19	HB 2018	Ch. 358	19
HB 324	Ch. 238	21, 22	SB 132	Ch. 3	21
HB 337	Ch. 2	7	SB 170	Ch. 118	10, 22
HB 390	Ch. 165	_	SB 172	Ch. 119	18
HB 407	Ch. 166	11	SB 309	Ch. 368	15, 19
HB 492	Ch. 20	18	SB 313	Ch. 342	22
HB 523	Ch. 21	9	SB 318	Ch. 312	12
HB 561	Ch. 293	9	SB 320	Ch. 100	7
HB 1202	Ch. 58	10	SB 321	Ch. 212	22
HB 1215	Ch. 168	14	SB 324	Ch. 101	8
HB 1233	Ch. 169	14, 15	SB 339	Ch. 214	14
HB 1254	Ch. 294	17	SB 340	Ch. 50	20
HB 1265	Ch. 173	16	SB 341	Ch. 105	20
HB 1276	Ch. 239	11	SB 342	Ch. 313	7
HB 1289	Ch. 60	16	SB 370	Ch. 359	17
HB 1303	Ch. 30	10, 15	SB 386	Ch. 318	17
HB 1307	Ch. 241	7, 12	SB 387	Ch. 125	10
HB 1319	Ch. 176	11	SB 398	Ch. 256	17
HB 1329	Ch. 347	17	SB 412	Ch. 56	13
HB 1347	Ch. 244	12	SB 417	Ch. 131	10
HB 1356	Ch. 296	21	SB 428	Ch. 133	10
HB 1370	Ch. 35	16	SB 443	Ch. 225	22
HB 1392	Ch. 246	7, 12	SB 444	Ch. 137	14, 18
HB 1402	Ch. 179	11, 14	SB 450	Ch. 320	15, 19
HB 1415	Ch. 349	23	SB 453	Ch. 258	19
HB 1421	Ch. 39	16	SB 471	Ch. 53	10
HB 1450	Ch. 247	12	SB 503	Ch. 148	20
HB 1472	Ch. 181	16	SB 504	Ch. 149	11, 20
HB 1473	Ch. 182	11, 21	SB 505	Ch. 150	13, 16
HB 1533	Ch. 75	13	SB 506	Ch. 325	8
HB 1546	Ch. 117	23	SB 510	Ch. 232	21
HB 1592	Ch. 190	18	SB 511	Ch. 151	20
HB 1651	Ch. 84	18	SB 512	Ch. 327	19
HB 1673	Ch. 282	21	SB 515	Ch. 152	7
HB 1684	Ch. 88	16	SB 516	Ch. 153	16
HB 1756	Ch. 304	9	SB 527	Ch. 329	8
HB 1766	Ch. 306	15	SB 539	Ch. 8	22
HB 1782	Ch. 94	16	SB 541	Ch. 369	13, 17
HB 1805	Ch. 203	8	SB 553	Ch. 261	12, 17
HB 1810	Ch. 95	14	SB 565	Ch. 287	9, 19
110 1010	UII. 22	47	30 303	311. ZU/	٠, ٢٠