

Quote of the Week

“That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion -- that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain -- that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom -- and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

— Abraham Lincoln

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House Session Review

Due to robust debate on multiple bills, the House only voted on four bills during this week's session. As a result, the House will now be in session next Wednesday, May 29th at 1:00pm in order to finish the rest of this week's calendar.

Here is a list of the bills that the full House voted on this week:

SB 89, relative to the definition of lead fishing sinkers and jigs and the penalties for prohibited sales of lead fishing sinkers and jigs.

Passed w/Amendment (225-142)

Note: The Amendment extended the effective date to 2016

SB 122, establishing a commercial shrimp license.

Passed (257-107)

SB 126, relative to business practices between motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, and dealers.

Passed w/Amendment (338-30)

SB 152, relative to video lottery and table gaming. AKA Casino Gambling

Killed (199-164)

Senate Cuts and Trims Democrat House Budget

The Senate has diligently been working to bring the Democrat House budget back down to earth. Earlier this week, they rejected about \$53 million in House approved tax increases and made a slew of other changes to lay the groundwork for an honest and responsible budget.

Below is a side by side of some of the changes:

House Budget

- 20 cent increase in tobacco tax
- 2 year delay in business tax reductions
- 12 cent increase in gas tax
- Moratorium on Charter Schools
- Expanded Medicaid

Senate Changes

- Tobacco tax increase eliminated
- Business tax reductions restored
- Gas tax increase eliminated
- Additional funding to restore Charter Schools
- Study Committee created to research pros/cons of Expanded Medicaid

ICYMI (In Case You Missed It)

House Kills Gambling Bill (SB 152)

On Wednesday, the full House voted on the Casino Gambling Bill (SB152). The result, after multiple hours of debate, was a vote of 199-164 in favor of killing (ITL) the bill.

This important vote has made quite a lot of news, so below we have compiled a list media stories detailing the vote.

[WMUR](#)

[Union Leader](#)

[Concord Monitor](#)

[Nashua Telegraph](#)

[NHGOP](#)

House Passes "Auto Dealer Bill of Rights"

On Wednesday, the full House also voted on SB 126 which is also known as the "Dealer Bill Of Rights".

The House easily passed this bill by a roll call vote of 338-30.

This bill revises business practices between motor vehicle manufacturers, distributors, and dealers.

During the debate, supporters stated that this bill will provide more choices for New Hampshire consumers while also protecting home town dealers from unfair contractual obligations forced on to them by manufactures. It was also said that this bill will level the playing field for auto dealers and manufactures in the state.

[To read more, click here.](#)

Important Dates

- **Republican Caucus-** No Caucus This Week
- **House Session-** Wednesday, May 29th at 1:00pm



Committee to Elect House Republicans Fundraiser- Friday, June 21st at 6:00pm in the Grappone Center in Concord. Tribute to Rep. Charlie Bass and the Bass Family. More Details to Come.

Meet a New Member

Rep. Jim Grenier



Jim retired in June of last year after a long career in teaching - 31 years at Sunapee High School and a number of years at Lebanon High School - mostly focused on mathematics.

He felt compelled to run for state office because he had the time and the capacity, and responded to the call to serve from Senator Odell.

Jim has been a Town Auditor in Lempster for years, and he's going into his 6th year on the School Board. In addition to Lempster, he represents Goshen, Washington, Langdon, and Ackworth. He met his wife in 1976 and moved to New Hampshire right after that.

Jim serves on the Education committee. He also presently owns and operates a beef farm. He and his wife enjoy using farming practices that preserve and improve wildlife habitat.

Please stop by and say hello to Jim at seat 235.



Meet a New Member

Rep. Ralph Doolan



Ralph really is a North Country person, being born and raised in Lancaster and having lived in Littleton for 40 years. He's spent his entire life in the business world, and the past 25 years owning a publishing company with a business journal for the North American forestry industry. Its principal magazine is called the Saw Log Bulletin, and is set up like the Wall Street Journal with log prices. He recently retired and his son Michael runs the business.

Ralph wanted to get involved because of his business and economic development background and ideas. He's never done much in politics before becoming a State Representative, but is proud of his leadership at the Littleton Library and helping them achieve a major national award.

Ralph drives down to Concord with his wife Jean and serves on the Commerce committee. He has 5 children and 9 grandchildren. Stop by and introduce yourself to Ralph in seat 293, and ask him about the grandson who attends Keene State College and just got a job at ABC news!

Steve wanted to serve on Executive Departments and Administration because he was very concerned about the rule making authority granted by boards and agencies, and not by statute. Whenever possible, Steve would prefer decisions on regulations and fees to be made by the legislature.

Steve knows first hand the effect of excessive state and federal regulations as a business owner himself. His family has owned a heating oil business for 3 generations and is one of the oldest companies in our state.

In his spare time, Steve helps charity organizations like Jerry's Food Pantry and the Share Fund, which raises money to help people with food, clothing, heat and other necessary assistance.

Steve and his wife Sherry live in Rochester and enjoy boating and motorcycling. Their son is a student at UNH studying genetics and is working toward publishing his first academic research paper this year. Please stop by and say hello to Steve at 338.

Rep. Steve Beaudoin



Rep. Kevin St. James



Kevin is a professional fire fighter and EMTI for the town of Exeter, and has enjoyed this career for 9 years. He lives in Kingston with his wife, 12 year old son and 16 year old daughter, while hosting an international student from China.

Kevin ran for state office because he wanted to get past partisan politics and focus on getting something accomplished, primarily to improve the economy and the prospects for jobs in New Hampshire. Until recently, Kevin and his wife owned a 5,000 sq ft licensed day care business, so he knows first hand how our state regulations and taxes impact employers.

Kevin serves on the House Labor & Industrial Relations Committee, and has enjoyed his experience there. Before this office, Kevin spent 7 years on the Municipal Budget committee in his town and 3 years on the Sanborn Regional High School School Board. In addition, he is a Justice of the Peace and Bail Commissioner.

Please join me in welcoming Kevin and introduce yourself if you haven't already. He sits at seat 129.

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Next Week Preview

Here is a list of some of the bills that the full House will be voting on next week:

SB 11-L, relative to water and sewer utility districts and water or sewer utility districts.

SB 31, relative to a ban on the incidental combustion of untreated wood at municipal transfer stations.

SB 47, relative to a surviving spouse’s right to retain a Purple Heart plate.

SB 100, authorizing electronic payment of payroll

SB 143-FN, relative to benefits for unemployed persons who are attempting to establish a business.

SB 153-FN, relative to legislative approval of collective bargaining agreements entered into by the state.

Senate Action

Here are some of the more attention grabbing items that the full Senate voted on this Thursday.

HB 185, relative to the fuel oil discharge cleanup fund. Passed (Voice Vote)

HB 617, gas tax. Killed-Indefinite Postponement (18-6)

HB 659, increase in tobacco tax. Killed-ITL (13-7)

HB 135, repealing stand your ground law. Tabled (19-5)

HB 573, medical marijuana. Passed with Amendment (18-6)

HB 119, relative to voter registration. Passed with Amendment (13-11)

HB 595, changes to voter ID. Passed with Amendment (13-10)

Notes From the Republican Leader

I wanted to take a moment to wish everyone a happy and peaceful Memorial Day and remind everyone to take a moment to offer our thanks to all of the members of our nation’s armed forces, especially those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

The freedoms we enjoy today are due to these brave soldiers and their sacrifices.

It is all too easy to overlook the sacrifices of our soldiers as we live in the bubble of safety they provide, but let us never forget to honor and remember those who are willing to stay awake so that we may sleep safely at night.

-
Gene

