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Republican Review

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Quote of the Week

*"Free people will
set the course of
history."*

George W. Bush

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Session In Review

On Wednesday, the House and Senate both met to vote on Committee of Conference reports.

Here are some of the more attention grabbing results:

HB1 and **HB2**- State Budget Bills (Passed- **HB1**:337-18, **HB2**:346-12)

HB 25- State Capitol Budget (Passed- Voice Vote)

SB148- relative to electric renewable portfolio standards. (Passed-225-128)

HB 295- requiring criminal background checks for volunteers and employees at youth skill camps. (Passed- 241-114)

HB 573- relative to the use of cannabis for therapeutic purposes. (Passed-284-66)

HB 595- relative to photo identification of voters. (Passed-231-121)

HB 599- relative to establishing a single liquor commissioner. (Passed-316-23)

HB 635- establishing a committee to study state rest areas and relative to the solicitation of requests for proposals for the naming rights to rest areas. (Passed-Voice Vote)

PRESS RELEASE: State Budget Passes

CONCORD – Today House Republican Leader Gene Chandler (R-Bartlett) offered the following statements in reaction to the passage of the State Budget committee of conference report by the House and Senate.

House Republican Leader Gene Chandler (R-Bartlett)

"New Hampshire's taxpayers deserve an honest and transparent budget that promotes an efficient and accountable government that is built on realistic revenue estimates. I'm confident this budget leads us in that direction."

"Throughout the budget process Republicans have insisted on reliable sustainable revenue estimates. Nothing can get us in more fiscal trouble than overestimating revenues. I am pleased that this budget relies on revenues at levels presented by the Senate and agreed to by our House Republican Ways & Means committee members."

"This budget will keep our state government on a fiscally sustainable course by keeping spending levels in check. Being able to produce a budget that helps fund important priorities while not including any tax or fee increase is a significant achievement."

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Meet a New Member

Rep. Shawn Sweeney



This is Shawn's first time in elected office of any kind. He's no stranger to politics, however, having worked on numerous presidential and federal campaigns.

Shawn was a prosecutor for many years, and now is a defense attorney. Initially he thought the Criminal Justice or Judiciary committees were the best match for him, but he has found the ED & A to be surprisingly interesting and rewarding.

Shawn lives with his wife in Milford. The youngest of their 6 kids is attending UNH and the oldest lives in New York. They have 6 grandchildren, including twin 7 year old "hurricanes."

Rep. Charlene Takesian

Charlene grew up in Massachusetts, where she also went to college, and then moved to Pelham in 1977 to raise her family. She has served as the Treasurer for the Town of Pelham since 1983, and has served on the Board of Adjustment, the Sherburne Hall Committee and the Pelham Community Spirit Committee.

For the past 16 years, Charlene has worked as a Peachtree software consultant, and has extensive background in computers, bookkeeping and accounting.

Charlene and her husband Hal have 6 children and twice as many grandchildren.



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In Case You Missed It

Rep. Burt Hot Dog Day

On Wednesday, Rep. John Burt (R-Goffstown) held his 2nd annual “Burt Hot Dog Day”. Hot dogs, Ice Cream, snacks and smores were on hand for hungry legislators and staff and all proceeds went to benefit the Concord SPCA.

[To make your own donation to the Concord SPCA, click here!](#)

Medicaid Study Commission

As part of the budget negotiations, Senate and House members agreed to create a commission to study the costs and benefits of expanding Medicaid.

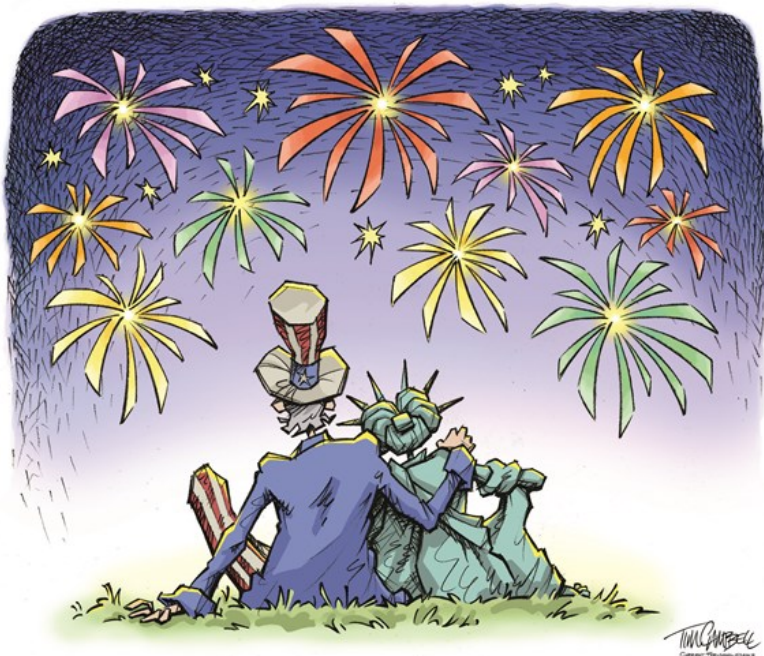
This commission will begin its work in the next few weeks and will have a full report ready by Oct. 15th.

PRESS RELEASE: State Budget Passes CONTINUED

“We are also happy to see that this budget allows for funding to our state’s valuable charter schools while lessening the impact of downshifting costs to the counties. This budget also continues the business tax reforms passed last year but suspended in the House version of the budget.”

“Medicaid expansion is a serious matter that deserves a full comprehensive study an fair up or down vote of the full legislature separate from the state budget. I’m glad we’ve been able to maintain the Senate’s position to study before we consider implementation. Although the timeline is tight, we will know more through this study process and our legislators can make a truly informed vote on this stand alone issue. It’s only fair we give this policy the same scrutiny as any other major piece of legislation.”

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Notes From the Republican Leader

Thank you to all of our Republican Members for a great legislative session. Although we are in the minority, we have been able to accomplish much and have done our best to keep the Democrats honest and in check. We need to stay focused next session as well in order to achieve our ultimate goal of winning back the Majority.

As a side note, seeing how there will be no Republican Review next week, I wanted to wish a happy Fourth of July to you and your families.

Have a wonderful weekend,

- Gene