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House Dems Stomp the Life Out of SB 415

After House Democrats lead the charge to kill SB415 on the House floor, with 100% of House Republicans voting for the bill, the Senate amended HB1634 to include SB415. SB415's last chance at survival was if the committee of conference agreed to keep the language as part of HB1634.

As a reminder, SB 415 is the bill that would have deposited last year's budget surplus into the state's Rainy Day Fund. This is a reasonable and important thing to do given the paltry \$9.3 million balance currently in the reserve fund, which was recently cited by 2 major bond rating agencies as one reason why they issue credit negative outlooks for New Hampshire.

On Thursday, in the committee of conference on HB1634, House Democrats refused to accept the SB415 language as part of the bill, resulting in the death of both the original bill and SB415.

Senate Finance Committee Chair Sen. Jeanie Forrester (R-Meredith) issued a statement following those events, saying, "Our Rainy Day Fund balance is more than \$130 million below the minimum level deemed adequate by bond rating agencies, and the fund balance currently stands at its lowest level in 22 years. The House's continued refusal to take the practical step of transferring the prior year's surplus into the fund ignores the advice of our State Treasurer, is detrimental to the fiscal health of our state, and does a disservice to our taxpayers."

She continued, "While the House has refused to allow the transfer of these dollars to the Rainy Day Fund – which would have sent a clear signal to our creditors that we are serious about our state's finance – that does not mean that this money will be available for new spending or to fill holes left by poor fiscal management. To be perfectly clear, the Senate will not authorize spending in Fiscal Year 2015 that relies on these dollars."

House Republican Office End of Session Lunch

The House Republican Office will be holding an "End of Session" luncheon for Republican members during the lunch break on Wednesday, June 4th at the Upham Walker House.

Please come join us for a bite to eat, celebrate the end of session, and share a few moments with fellow Republicans before you head over to the Speaker's Ice Cream Social!

**Join the New Hampshire Republican State Committee
and the Committee to Elect House Republicans**

**FOR AN INFORMATIVE AND ENGAGING
CANDIDATE & GRASSROOTS TRAINING
ON THE SEACOAST**

June 7, 2014
10AM-2PM

*Exeter Senior Center
30 Court Street
Exeter, New Hampshire*

Topics to Include:
Becoming a Candidate
Campaign Technology
Door Knocking/Messaging
Fundraising

To RSVP: ElectHouseRepublicans.com/June7 or RSVP to Todd Cheewing at todd@nhgop.org or 225-9341



Important Dates & Events

06/04/2014	Republican Caucus- 9am LOB 305-307
06/04/2014	House Session- 10am
06/04/2014	House Republican Office 'End of Session' Lunch –Upham Walker House at session lunch break
06/05/2014	Last day to act on Committee of Conference Reports
06/07/2014	Candidate Training – Exeter Senior Center 10am-2pm
06/16/2014	Committee to Elect House Republicans Golf Tournament

NH Obamacare Contracts Doling Out Millions to In-State and Out-of-State Contractors

This week, [NHPR reported](#), "...taxpayers are funding roughly \$25 million worth of private sector contracts related to the Affordable Care Act in New Hampshire. Most of it is funded by federal grants, with the state spending about \$7 million of its own money." According to NHPR, these contracts include

- [\\$13.3 million](#) to administer the mandatory HIPP program as part of the NH Health Protection Act (a.k.a. Medicaid Expansion)
- [\\$1.6 million](#) to help administer the mandatory HIPP program and the premium assistance program as part of the NH Health Protection Act
- [\\$2.3 million](#) for "plan management and design" related to the partnership health benefit exchange
- [\\$3 million](#) going to Louis Karno & Co. of Concord for "a comprehensive education and information plan"

This may only be the tip of the iceberg. In fact, state agencies are hiring so many outside contractors, they've hired a contractor to manage the contractors. According to NHPR, "Martha McLeod, a former [Democrat] state representative, has been [awarded more than \\$425,000](#) in Affordable Care Act grant money, including \$106,000 received last fiscal year," to help manage contractors and move contracts through the Executive Council process. Yes, the government is paying a contractor to, in part, obtain approval of contractors by the government ([see page 10](#)).

Ironically, one vocal opponent of this type of government spending appears to be the State Employee's Association. SEA President Diana Lacey alleges that contacting with for-profit entities means that taxpayers are paying for the vendors' profit. While the SEA may believe profit is bad, we assume they are also upset that the departments are not hiring full time state employees that would have to [pay union dues or agency fees](#) and contribute to the state pension plan that has a \$4.5 billion unfunded liability.

Note from the Republican Leader:

House Republicans,

Next Wednesday, the last day of session, we will be voting on the Committee of Conference Reports. We have had a handful of members inquire as to where they can see the Committee of Conference report for specific bills. [Here is the link](#) where you are able to find such reports. Since today is the last day to sign off on these reports, the list may not be entirely complete yet, but as the reports are signed off, they will go up online.

If you have any questions on any of these reports, Committee of Conference procedures, or what will happen next week in session, don't hesitate to stop by State House 307 or call us at 271-3665.

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NEWS CLIPS:
graniteclips.com

LINKS:

[NH GOP](#)

[NH GENERAL COURT](#)

[NH GOP SENATE](#)

The Committee to Elect House Republicans Golf Tournament

Monday, June 16th
Wentworth by the Sea in Rye, NH.

Registration: 12pm
Shot gun start: 1pm

\$150/person

Includes: greens fees, cart rental, reception to follow

Contests will include: longest drive, closest to the pin, most honest score, and hole in one prize

For more information, including sponsorship opportunities, please contact Gene Chandler or Katie Horgan at

info@electhouserepublicans.com

Or visit our website at

www.electhouserepublicans.com



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