



**NHOHVA
2024 Session**

Hearings Scheduled for the Week of January 15, 2024:

HB 1122, relative to lights on motor vehicles. (1/16 Public Hearing)

HB 1138, equalizing the fines for operating an OHRV with a driver's license suspended and operating a snowmobile with a driver's license suspended. (1/16 Executive Session)

HB 1366, relative to penalties for the negligent or reckless operation of boats. (1/19 Executive Session)

HB 1543, relative to personal electric vehicles (PEVs). (1/16 Executive Session)

HB 1558, relative to agent fees for fish and game licenses. (1/17 Public Hearing)

SB 345, relative to state park fees for state residents. (1/16 Public Hearing)

Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
CACR 15	Osborne	Title: relating to taxation. Providing that a 2/3 vote is required to pass legislation imposing new or increased taxes or license fees, or to authorize the issuance of state bonds and providing that the general court shall appropriate funds for payment of interest and installments of principle of all state bonds. Comments Would require any new or increased tax or fee to pass the House and Senate by a 2/3 vote instead of a majority vote. If passed, the resolution would go on the election ballot to be voted on by all New Hampshire citizens.	House Ways and Means Schedule pending	Introduced
HB 1052	Richard Brown	Title: relative to the format of excavating and dredging permit applications. Comments Would require someone filing an excavating and dredging permit to submit a paper copy and digital copy of the form to the municipality.	House Environment and Agriculture Schedule pending	Introduced
HB 1063	Hynes	Title: relative to motor vehicle speed within 10 miles per hour of the speed limit. Comments Seeks to allow motor vehicles to lawfully travel 10 miles per hour over the speed limit in certain circumstances.	House Transportation Schedule pending	Introduced



Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
HB 1122	Thomas Walsh	Title: relative to lights on motor vehicles. Comments Included in the report because of the broad title. Do not believe it will impact OHRVs.	House Transportation Public Hearing: 01/16/2024 10:00 am LOB 203	Introduced
HB 1138	Eamon Kelley	Title: equalizing the fines for operating an OHRV with a driver's license suspended and operating a snowmobile with a driver's license suspended. Comments Fish and Game was the only one to testify at the hearing. This bill was discussed at the HB 1188 study commission as a priority for Fish and Game this year. The intent is to equalize the penalties for operating after suspension with habitual offender penalties for motor vehicles violations.	House Transportation Executive Session: 01/16/2024 2:00 pm LOB 203	Introduced
HB 1148	Harvey	Title: relative to the fish and game commission. Comments Annual attempt to change the qualifications of nominees to the Fish and Game Commission. Nearly identical to the previous attempt that was overwhelmingly killed. Supported by conservation and environmental groups and opposed by sportsmen groups.	House Fish and Game and Marine Resources Public Hearing: 02/06/2024 10:30 am LOB 307 Executive Session: 02/06/2024 2:30 pm LOB 307	Introduced
HB 1234	Erf	Title: relative to the repair of class VI roads not maintained by a municipality. Comments Would require all residential owners along a class VI road to be obligated to contribute to reasonable costs of its maintenance if there is not an agreement governing maintenance in place. Additionally, it would require that any owner of a residential property abutting a class VI road who directly or indirectly damages any portion of the road to be solely responsible for repairing or restoring the portion damaged.	House Public Works and Highways Schedule pending	Introduced



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STRATEGIES

Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
HB 1314	Grassie	Title: relative to the comprehensive state development plan. Comments Seeks to amend the Comprehensive State Development Plan (SDP) by enhancing provisions to safeguard natural resources and identify environmental risks.	House Resources, Recreation and Development Schedule pending	Introduced
HB 1359	Len Turcotte	Title: relative to appeals of certain zoning decisions by abutters. Comments Seeks to amend the definition of abutter for purposes of appealing to the board of adjustments. It would include someone directly across a street or stream.	House Municipal and County Government Schedule pending	Introduced
HB 1366	Hynes	Title: relative to penalties for the negligent or reckless operation of boats. Comments Would add a penalty for the reckless operation of a boat and additional fines and revocations of a license. Monitor only.	House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Executive Session: 01/19/2024 02:00 pm LOB 202-204	Introduced
HB 1467	Gibbons	Title: relative to child passenger protection. Comments Monitoring for potential expansion. Would require passenger restraint systems based on age and prevent children from riding in the front seat before turning 13.	House Transportation Schedule pending	Introduced
HB 1494	Eamon Kelley	Title: relative to OHRVs. Comments Fish and Game Commission voted to oppose this bill. Would make various changes to OHRV and snowmobile statutes. First, attempts to change the definition of OHRV club by removing the requirement it be made up of "OHRV users" and replaces the terminology with a group "with a focus on OHRV use." It also attempts to add the sworn affidavit language from the Farm/Ag plate section of law to the special commercial plate law. Additionally, changes the	House Resources, Recreation and Development Schedule pending	Introduced



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		snowmobile events section to have Fish and Game receive all the fees and control the calendar of events. It was likely meant to be added to the OHRV section as well. Finally, it tries to allow high school golf teams to use golf carts during tournaments to drive them if they are under 18 with passengers. Fish and Game has stated this provision is not needed.		
HB 1530	Hoell	<p>Title: requiring fish and game officers to wear body cameras.</p> <p>Comments Seeks to require Fish and Game Conservation Officers to wear body cameras and retain the recordings for 180 days in case they are needed for evidence in a criminal case.</p>	<p>House Fish and Game and Marine Resources</p> <p>Public Hearing: 01/30/2024 02:00 pm LOB 307</p> <p>Executive Session: 02/06/2024 2:30 pm LOB 307</p>	Introduced
HB 1543	Linda Gould	<p>Title: relative to personal electric vehicles (PEVs).</p> <p>Comments Attempts to create a personal electric vehicle (PEV) section of law. It would exclude vehicles otherwise defined in RSA 215. It would require an online safety course for anyone over 16 who does not have a driver's license and setup a registration process. It would exempt currently defined Class 1, 2 and 3 electric bicycles.</p>	<p>House Transportation</p> <p>Executive Session: 01/16/2024 02:00 pm LOB 203</p>	Introduced
HB 1550	Ebel	<p>Title: authorizing municipalities to reduce speed limits seasonally.</p> <p>Comments Would allow a municipality to authorize a seasonal speed limit if petitioned on any part of the highway system in their town that is seasonally congested by pedestrian or bicycle traffic.</p>	<p>House Transportation</p> <p>Schedule pending</p>	Introduced



Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
HB 1558	Cole	<p>Title: relative to agent fees for fish and game licenses.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Would allow Fish and Game agents to collect a fee of \$3 (up from \$1) for each license type except where a different agent fee or no fee is required by law. It would also allow registration stations to charge an additional fee of \$5 for small game and up to \$10 for large game for use of a scale at the station.</p>	<p>House Ways and Means</p> <p>Public Hearing: 01/17/2024 10:30 am LOB 202-204</p>	Introduced
HB 1709	Eamon Kelley	<p>establishing a tax on land used for carbon credits.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Seeks to establish a tax on land used for carbon credits. Newer issues being seen in which land is being used for carbon credits in other states like California.</p>	<p>House Resources, Recreation and Development</p> <p>Public Hearing held on 01/10/2024</p>	Introduced
SB 345	Keith Murphy	<p>Title: relative to state park fees for state residents.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Seeks to require resident fees for use of state parks be no more than 50% of nonresident fees. It also would permit DNCR to set different rates for residents and nonresidents for any given service within the state park but cap resident fees at up to 90% of nonresident fees for the same services.</p>	<p>Senate Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>Public Hearing: 01/16/2024 9:00 am SH 103</p>	Introduced
SB 381	Avard	<p>Title: prohibiting a municipality from designating a road as a private road under certain conditions.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Would limit how a municipality could designate a road as private. One provision prevents a municipality from designating the road as private if a road was designated a Class V or Class VI road before the requirements of the enhanced 911 telecommunications system.</p>	<p>Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs</p> <p>Schedule pending</p>	Introduced



Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
SB 397	Gendreau	Title: making an appropriation for OHRV trails. Comments Would make a \$2 million appropriation for remediating OHRV and snowmobile trails damaged by weather-related events in 2023.	Senate Finance Public Hearing: 01/23/2024 01:00 pm SH 103	Introduced
SB 418	Gannon	Title: relative to THC concentrations for driving offenses. Comments Seeks to set the maximum THC concentration at 2 ng/ml for driving under the influence of drugs offenses for all motor vehicles including OHRVs.	Senate Judiciary Public Hearing held on 01/11/2024	Introduced
SB 426	Gannon	Title: relative to the possession of controlled drugs in motor vehicles. Comments Attempts to clarify the allowable possession of certain cannabis products in a motor vehicle or OHRV and requiring them to be in a secure container that is the least accessible location for the driver.	Senate Judiciary Public Hearing held on 01/11/2024	Introduced
SB 471	Watters	Title: relative to adding a speed limit of 45 miles per hour on rural highways. Comments Introduced to address an issue on Route 4 in Rollinsford. DOT made it clear this would be done in limited circumstances and with town approval. Would limit speed limits to 45 miles per hour in a newly defined "unimproved rural highway". The new definition would be a highway of 2-lanes not in a business district, urban residence district, or rural residence district, but where reduced speed limits are needed because of highway geometry, lack of paved shoulders, or low-density presence of driveways or public access points.	Senate Transportation Committee Report: Ought to pass for 01/18/2024	Introduced



Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
<u>SB 491</u>	<u>Jeb Bradley</u>	<p>Title: relative to authorizing municipalities to enter into voluntary agreements with owners of private roads.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Would allow municipalities to enter into agreements with owners of private roads to allow for municipal use of the road. An agreement would need the written consent of every owner on the road, could not obligate the town to maintain the road, and specify clearly the types of uses are allowed and which parties are responsible for road maintenance.</p>	<p>Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs</p> <p>Schedule pending</p>	<u>Introduced</u>
<u>SB 493</u>	<u>Innis</u>	<p>Title: relative to establishing municipal emergency disaster relief loan fund to aid municipalities in a natural disaster.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Would appropriate \$5 million to Homeland Security to provide loans to municipalities impacted by natural disasters. The monies could not be used when other funding is available such as FEMA funds.</p>	<p>Senate Finance</p> <p>Public Hearing: 01/23/2024 1:45 pm SH 103</p>	<u>Introduced</u>
<u>SB 504</u>	<u>Jeb Bradley</u>	<p>Title: relative to land in current use.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Would allow an owner of open space land to post "no trespass except for public recreational use" signs that prohibit or restrict access for any other uses and would create a criminal trespassing offense for violating the chapter. Public recreational use means there cannot be a prohibition on skiing, snowshoeing, fishing, hunting or nature observation.</p>	<p>Senate Judiciary</p> <p>Schedule pending</p>	<u>Introduced</u>
<u>SB 542</u>	<u>Watters</u>	<p>Title: relative to appointments to the fish and game commission.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Seeks to enable the Native American Affairs Commission to nominate persons to be considered for the fish and game commission.</p>	<p>Senate Energy and Natural Resources</p> <p>Schedule pending</p>	<u>Introduced</u>



Bill	Sponsor	Title & Comments	Status	Latest Version
SB 551	Innis	Title: relative to making an appropriation for rail trail project matching funds. Comments Would appropriate \$600,000 to Warner as matching funds for the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) grant to build a section of the rail trail linking Contocook Village with downtown Warner.	Senate Finance Public Hearing: 01/23/2024 1:10 pm SH 103	Introduced
2023 RETAINED BILLS				
HB 202	Janigian	Title: relative to property tax abatements. Comments Vote was 18-1 and it will be on the consent calendar. Requested by a study commission to eliminate an inequality between equalization rates used for tax assessments and one for tax appeals.	Adopted by the House on 01/03/2024	Introduced
KILLED BILLS				
HB 434	Post	Title: relative to flying drones in state parks.	Killed by the House on 01/04/24	Introduced
SB 13	Watters	Title: relative to recovery of search and rescue expenses.	Senate: Adopted on 01/19/2023 Killed by the House on 01/03/24	Introduced