



Advocacy Matters Newsletter

Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire

February 1, 2024

Legislative Update-Teresa Rosenberger, Lobbyist, Bernstein Shur

We had a very busy week.

HB 254 which creates a procedure for an individual with a terminal illness to receive medical aid and dying medication had a public hearing as well as a number of organizations opposing the bill had a press conference. HB 254 is this year's version of the medically assisted suicide bill we defeated last year. The public hearing which took place in Representatives Hall had a tremendous number of people testifying in support and in opposition of HB 254. The two sides are coming at the issue from totally divergent points of view. Once again this is not a partisan issue. It will be very interesting to see how this bill fairs this year in the House Judiciary Committee and in the full House. We do not expect a vote on the bill until the middle of February at the earliest as the Chair of the Judiciary Committee is on a trip, hopefully to someplace warmer. The bill is just as divisive as before.

We have several hearings this coming week. We have an extraordinary number of bills on special education for children with disabilities.

HB 222 it repeals the memorandum of understanding between a chartered public school and the school district regarding how students with disabilities will receive special education services
Public Hearing, Monday, February 3rd at 9:30 LOB 205 Education Policy Committee

HB 699 redefining and adding new definitions related to special education specifically “acquitted brain injury”.
Public Hearing, Monday, February 3rd at 10:15 LOB 205 Education Policy Committee

HB 753 requires that expedited due process hearings must not exceed the timelines applicable to regular due process hearings and actions to enforce special education rights
Public Hearing, Monday, February 3rd 11:15 LOB 205 Education Policy Committee

HB 754 establishing automatic discovery and due process here hearing due process hearings for actions seeking to enforce special education rights

Public Hearing, Monday, February 3rd 10:45

LOB 205 education Policy Committee

HB 773 removes the requirement the catastrophic special education fund be prorated among the school districts entitled such aid and requires a disbursement for special education to a school district shall be at least 80% of the districts entitlement for catastrophic cost in the fiscal year.

Public Hearing, Tuesday, February 4th 11:30

LOB 205 Education Funding Committee

SB 255 creates a trust fund to promote awareness of behavioral health crisis services systems as well as a Commission to oversee the behavioral health crisis service system trust fund and establishes a crisis services telecommunications services charge and a special 988 license plate

Public Hearing Thursday, February 6 11:00

LOB 101 Senate HHS

The committees are trying to get all of the bills heard that have a second committees and voted on before the deadline of March 6th. So, things are really picking up and moving quite quickly at the moment.

More to come as we approach the budget release on February 12th and approach the House and Senate bill deadlines. Of course, we still have some confidential bill seen have not seen yet.

Have a tremendous weekend. Teresa

Brain Injury Legislative Status Report

Attached find the most recent Brain Injury Legislative Status Report for your review.

Take care,

Ellen

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