



## **Advocacy Matters Newsletter**

### **Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire**

### **April 9, 2021**

#### **General Court News- Legislative Activities Suspension**

**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the General Court is conducting legislative activities remotely with the exception of publicly noticed sessions in the House or Senate Calendar. During this time, the State House and Legislative Office Building remain closed to visitors.**

#### **Legislative Update -Teresa Rosenberger, Lobbyist, Bernstein Shur**

The House met late on Friday night. There may be a few bills they do not get to which die as today is crossover. If a bill does not crossover yesterday, it is dead.

A lot of very weary NH Legislators are very glad it is the end of the week. Three days at the Sportsplex in Bedford debating process, policy, and the future of NH sleep was exhausting. Many brought their own chairs. Some brought TV trays. Some even brought 2 chairs. Most wore masks. The real question is whether they prefer being in a Sportsplex where they can be spread out in their own chairs or if they prefer to go back to Concord and all be in auditorium seating in the House Chamber. The Sportsplex walls had signs such as Ferocious Family Fun. We are not sure that was truly what was going on. The House members may prefer the portraits of our forefathers instead.

Many believed some Republicans would join the Democrats in opposing the House budget as the Governor and the Senate have issues with many of the policy issues put in the budget by the House Finance Committee. In the end, only 2 Republicans voted with the Democrats against the \$13.46 Billion budget. The budget is 1.4% below the current budget. There are no new taxes in the budget nor Federal stimulus funds. The House budget has required DHHS to reduce their appropriations by \$50M. Developmental Services, including acquired brain disorder services, and Children's home support were exempt from the reductions. Also, the acquired brain injury programs supported by the DHHS budget were included with a slight increase in funding.

Have a wonderful week-end.

Teresa

## **Brain Injury Public Policy Committee Meeting -April 13, 2021**

The next scheduled Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire Public Policy Committee ZOOM Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 4:30pm**. The Brain Injury Public Policy Committee will be meeting regularly on the **second Tuesday of the month at 4:30 pm**. Eldon Munson, Jr., Chair of the Committee, will preside over the 2021 meetings.

During the meeting, Brain Injury Association of New Hampshire Lobbyist Teresa Rhodes Rosenberger from the Law Firm of Bernstein Shur will provide the committee with a legislative and public policy update.

All are welcome. If you are interested in attending, please visit <https://bianh.salsalabs.org/bimppcm> to register and receive the ZOOM link or contact Ellen Edgerly at [Ellen@bianh.org](mailto:Ellen@bianh.org) or 603-834-9570.

## **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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