How to Read a Bill Status
2014 New Hampshire Bills

Example: Reading a Bill Status Page

The example below labels what you will see when you click on a “Bill Status” link in one of our PDFs.

Glossary of Bill Status Terms
Below are some of the common terms you will see on a “Bill Status” page. If you visit a “Bill Status” page and see a term not included on this list, feel free to e-mail us at info@livefreeordiealliance.com and ask for a definition. There are lots of less common bill statuses we did not include on this cheat sheet.

Concurred
If the Senate makes some changes to a bill that already passed the House, the House must vote to “concur” with those changes. The opposite is also true – if the House makes some changes to a bill that already passed the Senate, the Senate must vote to “concur” with those changes.

Conference Committee
If the House and Senate both want to pass a bill but can’t agree on the final version, a conference committee is formed to draft a compromise bill. Conference committees include both House and Senate members.

Conference Report Adopted
The compromise bill drafted by a conference committee passed.
In Committee
The bill is being considered by a committee. That committee provides the full House or Senate with a recommendation on the bill, but the full House and Senate don’t have to follow committee recommendations when it comes time to vote.

Inexpedient to Legislate
The bill is dead and will not be reconsidered.

Interim Study
The bill will be studied between legislative sessions. This is a polite way to kill a bill in an election year.

Laid on Table
The House or Senate may vote again on the bill someday, but for now the bill has been set aside. If the session ends and the bill has not been taken off the table, the bill dies.

Nonconcurred Request Conference
If the Senate makes some changes to a bill that already passed the House, the House must vote to “concur” with those changes. The opposite is also true – if the House makes some changes to a bill that already passed the Senate, the Senate must vote to “concur” with those changes. “Nonconcurred Request Conference” means that the House or Senate didn’t agree with the changes to a bill, and requested a conference committee to reach a compromise.

Passed/Adopted
The bill passed as originally written.

Passed/Adopted with Amendment
The bill passed, but with an amendment or change to the original bill.

Report Filed
The committee to first consider the bill reported a recommendation to the full House or Senate. A vote by the full House or Senate comes next.

Rereferred
The full House or Senate sent the bill back to committee for further consideration.

Retained in Committee
The committee to first consider the bill decided to hold onto the bill for now.