

# MAJORITY REPORT

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## *From the desk of the Majority Leader*



Both the House and the Senate worked overtime this past week to finish up several important pieces of legislation as we head down the homestretch toward completing work for this session.

As Republicans we should be proud of the fact that we managed to pass legislation that addresses a couple of the major goals and objectives that we had agreed upon at the beginning of the session.

On Wednesday the House addressed major tort reform legislation when it passed SB214. As a result, pretrial panels will now be set up to review malpractice claims before they head to court. With this vote, the House also took a major step toward helping to stabilize skyrocketing malpractice rates while keeping certain specialists practicing in the state.

The Majority Office felt that it was crucial that the House pass tort reform legislation this session that would be beneficial to our constituents. Thanks to your hard work that goal was realized.

On Thursday the Senate worked late into the evening before completing their work on both the Budget and Education Funding. They passed a budget that spends \$8.6 billion over two years and includes the pay raise for state employees. Several other changes were made, including eliminating funding cuts to the state's teaching hospitals; removing the asset test for the Healthy Kids Program, which provides health insurance for children from poor families; and giving \$2M to the University System

### Important Dates

- **Tuesday, June 14**—Chairmen and Vice Chairmen meeting. Room 203 (LOB) (9 AM). Chairmen must have their recommendations on all Senate messages to the Clerk by the end of business today.
- **Tuesday, June 14**—Briefing for House members on all Senate revisions to the budget and education funding bills. (10:00 AM)
- **Wednesday, June 15**—Republican Caucus, Representatives Hall (9:15 AM)
- **Wednesday, June 15**—House session (10:00 AM)
- **Wednesday, June 29**—Republican Caucus, Representatives Hall (9:15 AM)
- **Wednesday, June 29**—House session (10:00 AM)

of New Hampshire to reduce tuition for **in-state students**.

The House-passed plan was the first budget to spend less (1.8%) than the previous budget in more than a decade. The overall General Fund spending was up 4% due to a loss in federal funds.

HB1, HB2, and the Capital Budgets will now go to a committee of conference where final differences between the House and the Senate

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—Desk (continued from page one)

will be worked out.

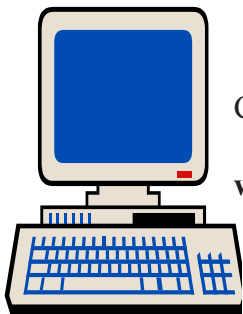
On Tuesday morning, June 14, at 10 a.m. in Room 210 of the Legislative Office Building, a briefing session will be held on the budget, as passed by the Senate. I encourage all Republican members to make plans to attend this session in order to become better informed on the budget.

The Senate-passed education funding plan will also be discussed immediately following the budget briefing on Tuesday. The Senate plan sends nearly \$473M to school districts around the state, eliminates donor towns, provides money for hardship grants, and continues the statewide property tax. It will transition communities over a period of four years.

Once again, by addressing the education funding problem, creating a formula that is fair and equitable, and eliminating donor towns, we will have accomplished another of our major goals and objectives.

We still have a couple of busy weeks ahead of us but we can certainly see the light at the end of the tunnel. On Tuesday the chairmen and vice-chairmen will review the messages sent over by the Senate and, on Wednesday, the full House will be asked to vote on these messages. All chairmen must have their recommendations on all Senate messages to the Clerk by the end of business on Tuesday, June 14.

It has been rewarding to see the Republican membership come together over the past few weeks to pass meaningful legislation that we can be proud to discuss with our constituents when we return to our communities this summer.



Check out the Majority Office website at:  
[www.nhousegop.com](http://www.nhousegop.com)

The calendar of events is updated on a daily basis on the website...You will also be able to check out current weather in Concord, road conditions and the latest Majority Report.

**Majority Leadership**

Majority Leader Mike O'Neil  
Deputy Majority Leader Fran Wendelboe  
Majority Whip Pam Price

**Legislative Aides**

Erin Hass—271-3665  
Lynne Merrill —271-3663  
Jim Rivers—271-6277

**Administrative Assistants**

Seanna Barriere—271-3064  
Teresa Preston—271-3654