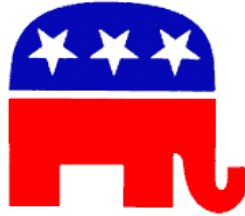


Republican Report

“Over the years, this place has become my second family.....because friendship goes beyond party lines.”

—Mike Whalley



Volume 2, Issue 9

March 7, 2008

This week in the House.....

With five session days scheduled over the next two weeks, the House is facing an extremely heavy workload and it will be important for us all to stick together on a number of core Republican issues that we will be debating and voting on.

We have scheduled **Republican Caucuses** for 9 AM on both session days next week—**Wednesday** and **Thursday, March 12th** and **13th**. They will be held in Rooms 305-307 of the LOB and it is very important that we have a good turnout. Although the Thursday session will not begin until 1 PM, there are many committees meeting prior to lunch so, as a result, our has been scheduled for 9 AM. During these caucuses we intend to discuss a number of important issues facing us over the next

two weeks, including several key pieces of legislation. If you have any concerns about any of the legislation listed for action in the week’s House Calendar, please contact us and bring them with you to the caucus.

Unnecessary Legislation

One of the bills special ordered to next week was **HB 1154** out of Resources, Recreation and Development. It would establish a commission to study flooding in the town of Bradford, specifically Lake Todd, Lake Massasecum, and the watershed. We ask that you **support** the majority of **ITL**. It would be unnecessary to establish a commission to study an issue that has been sufficiently studied already.

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HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 30

Memorializing State Representative Michael D. Whalley of Alton Bay

WHEREAS, we have learned with profound sorrow of the death of our friend and colleague, Michael D. Whalley, who was serving his eighth term as a State Representative, five terms representing the citizens of Bow and Dunbarton, and the last three terms representing Alton, Barnstead, Belmont and Gilford; and

WHEREAS, Michael D. Whalley was held in highest esteem by his colleagues for his interest and expertise in many areas of legislative policy and process, having served four terms, including one as Vice-Chairman, on the Committee on Resources, Recreation and Development, four terms on the Rules Committee, two as Vice-Chairman, two terms on the Committee on Election Law, one as Chairman, and one term on the Committee on Legislative Administration; and

WHEREAS, Michael D. Whalley held positions of trust and leadership as Majority Whip, two terms as Deputy Speaker and as the Republican Leader of the House; and

WHEREAS, Mike Whalley was an extremely articulate legislator who carried himself with dignity, cared deeply for the House of Representatives as an institution and who was passionate with regard to the causes he espoused and the principles he stood for; and

WHEREAS, Mike Whalley had a life-long interest in recreational vehicles, both on land and water, which became the center of his business life and served as the basis for his work with the New Hampshire Statewide Trails Advisory Committee, the New Hampshire Snowmobile Association and the Antique Boat Society and his love of auto and motorcycle racing; and

**In Memory
MICHAEL D. WHALLEY
1953-2008**



**Our leader,
our colleague, and
our friend.**

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—**Resolution** (continued from page one)

WHEREAS, Michael D. Whalley was a deeply caring family man who was devoted to his wife, Purr, his children Caitlin and John, his brothers and sister, his parents and a whole extended family of relatives and dear friends; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives in Regular Session convened, that Michael D. Whalley be granted the highest praise and accolades and our profound thanks for his service to his state and the towns he called home, and, be it further

RESOLVED, that expressions of our most heartfelt sympathy be extended to his family and that a suitable copy of this Resolution be prepared for presentation to them.

Offered by the House of Representatives

—**This Week** (continued from page one)

Education Bills

HB 1281, legislation sponsored by Rep. Elliot, would prohibit the University System of New Hampshire (USNH) from **mandating** insurance coverage as a condition of enrollment. The fact is, tuition at our state colleges in New Hampshire is higher than nearly every other state in the country, and forcing students to pay an additional cost (in most cases to the school itself) in excess of \$3,000 would add to the life of their student loans and further burden these young graduates. More importantly, this bill makes it a bit more affordable for our low income students to attend college within our university system without worrying about additional costs. Please **support** the bipartisan majority of **OTP/A**.

A second bill, **HB 1330**, is an effort to repeal due process provisions that were enacted just a few short years ago that allowed for local school boards to remove incompetent teachers during a school year. This is a teachers' union bill that removes the authority of a local board. It would increase the costs, resources and administrative time devoted to teacher non-renewal issues in all New Hampshire school districts. The issue that **HB 1330** tries to deal with is not broken, and we ask you to join the bipartisan minority in opposing **OTPA** and **supporting** a motion of **ITL**.

Election Law

House Election Law has been doing a good amount of work, and we would ask you to support the committee reports on two bills this week.

HB 1139 repeals an unconstitutional law that was passed last year that included a person's year of birth and voting history in the statewide list produced by the Secretary of State. It was a bad bill when it passed and Rep. Kurk was right to sponsor its repeal; please **support** the majority committee report of **OTPA**.

HB 1454 is an awful piece of legislation that would have New Hampshire abandon our national Electoral

College system in favor of the national popular vote method. If the people of New Hampshire were to vote one way, while the majority of people in the rest of country voted another, then all four of New Hampshire's Electoral College votes would go to the other candidate. This would then diminish the value of the vote of the citizens of our state.

Parental Rights

House Judiciary continues to undertake important work with regard to parental rights and following the law. There are two important bills on which leadership has taken a position.

HB 1495 is the constitutionally-tested, parental notification bill that is based on current law from many other states in the country. When the Democrats repealed parental notification last year, they indicated to us that they would support a constitutional bill: here it is, yet they still voted to kill it. This bill ensures family involvement, and is one which we took a strong position on. Please oppose the **ITL** and **support** a motion of **OTP**.

HB 1588 is a bill that would prohibit abortion clinics in New Hampshire from performing the operation on underage minors who come from states that have a consent or notification law in place. This is common sense legislation, it doesn't force anyone to be an expert on all laws, and it merely prevents New Hampshire from being a loophole state, which it definitely should not be. Please **support** a motion of **OTP** after defeating the **ITL**.

The House Labor committee is up to its old tricks again and this week supports **HB 1469**, a bill that adds a new condition to negotiation terms, those of "safety considerations." The Municipal Association, School Administrators Association, Association of Counties, and several town administrators testified against this bill. Safety considerations are an ever-changing aspect of

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This Week (continued from page two)

administration, and to have a specific safety concern addressed in one's public contract may be to the detriment of the employee who may be stuck in an outdated model. The more provisions added to contracts, the less likely our public employees will be able to operate with instruction. Since there is no definition of "safety considerations," property taxpayers will now need to **fund** the time it takes for negotiating parties to define "safety considerations," a definition that even the committee could not agree upon. We ask you to please **support** the Minority report of **Refer for Interim Study**.

North Country Energy Issues

HB 1460, a bill out of Science, Technology & Energy, is legislation that would allow Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) to build generation facilities in the North Country—an effort that would result in lower rates and the creation of more jobs. Unfortunately, this bill did not receive the study necessary to make it a viable piece of legislation and worthy of prime time. Keeping **HB 1460** available through interim study would provide a vehicle for a coordinated effort to address solutions to the North Country's electricity transmission and generation issues early in the next session. We would ask you to **support** the Minority report of **Refer for Interim Study** so that we may keep all options on the table.

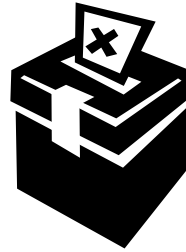
Removing Fees

In House Ways & Means we are **supporting** the minority positions of **Ought to Pass** on two important bills. **HB 1360** would repeal the civil court filing fee that was adopted last year. This additional fee of \$25 for filing any civil case

is just one additional step in preventing our citizens from seeking redress and is yet another example of the mismanagement of the budget writers in attempting to balance it on the backs of our citizens.

HB 1547 is a bill to repeal the fee charged by the Register of Deeds with the funds going directly to LCHIP. The New Hampshire Register of Deeds Association spoke in favor of this bill citing its difficulty in managing, a fee on specific documents being near unmanageable to handle. Again, LCHIP is an association that should be funded, but not by methods like this that are harmful to citizens experiencing an already fledgling real estate market, which is why the Realtors Association also spoke in favor of the bill.

Special Election



On **March 11** there will be a special election for state representative in Hillsborough, District 7 (Goffstown & Weare) to fill the vacancy left with the passing of former Representative Bruce Hunter.

The Republican candidate is Gary Hopper, a former two-term representative who served in the House from 2000-04. To help us elect a fellow Republican, please call the House Republican Office at 271-3665, or the State Republican Party Headquarters at 225-9341.

Please give us a call and let us know which days and times you are available to help make phone calls for the candidate.

Important Dates

- Tues., Mar. 11** **Town Meeting Day** (no legislative business)
Special Election—Hillsborough, District 7 (Goffstown & Weare).
- Wed., Mar. 12** **NH Capital St. Patrick's Day Breakfast**—
To benefit the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth (CHAD)-7:00 a.m., Grappone Conference Center—Marriott Courtyard, 70 Constitution Avenue, Concord
Republican Caucus—9 a.m. (LOB-305-07)
House Session—10:00 a.m.
- Thurs., Mar. 13** **Republican Caucus**—9 a.m. (LOB-305-07)
House Session—1:00 p.m.
- Tues., Mar. 18** **Republican Caucus**—9 a.m. (LOB-305-07)
House Session—10:00 a.m.
- Wed., Mar. 19** **House Session**—10:00 a.m.*
- Thurs., Mar. 20** **House Session**—10:00 a.m.*

(*possibly preceded by a Republican Caucus)