

OUR PUBLIC AFFAIRS REVIEW FOR FARM, FOREST AND RURAL INTEREST.
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NEW HAMPSHIRE FARM BUREAU FEDERATION • DENIS WARD, PRESIDENT
EDITED BY ROBERT JOHNSON, II, NHFBF POLICY DIRECTOR

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The following House and Senate Committee hearings have been scheduled for next week:

Tuesday, February 16

Environment and Agriculture, Room 303, Legislative Office Building (LOB)

10:00 a.m. **HB 1615-FN**, *regulating the transfer of dogs from out of state*. Amends RSA 437 relative to the sale of pets and the disposition of unclaimed animals to define animal importers, require they be registered with the Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food, define transfer events, and require animal importers notify the Department of Agriculture, Markets, and Food of each transfer event.

“Animal Importer” and “Transfer Event” are defined in the bill as follows:

I. “Animal importer” means a person who brings any cat or dog into the state from any other state or sovereign entity for the purpose of offering the cat or dog for transfer in exchange for a fee, a voluntary monetary contribution, service, or other consideration. Animal importer shall include any animal shelter facility.

VIII. “Transfer event” means an event at a location open to the public or arranged through previous communication or agreement at which an animal importer transfers cats and/or dogs to new owner.

Farm Bureau Supports

Ways and Means, Room 202, LOB

11:00 a.m. **HB 1655-FN**, (New Title) relative to the municipal registration fee for an agricultural/industrial utility vehicle used exclusively for farming or agriculture. A hearing on **HB 1655-FN** was held before the House Transportation Committee. This hearing is to address the fee portion of the bill. It was introduced to clear-up an oversight when **SB 231**, creating agricultural/industrial utility vehicles, was passed into law in 2014. As passed, **SB 231** included language setting the state fee at one-third the rate of the normal rate based on year and weight. This was done because of the limited use allowed for the vehicles. The same reduced

rate at the municipal level was inadvertently left out of SB 231 as passed. Due to administrative challenges in applying the one-third rate at the municipal level it was determined a flat \$5 fee – in line with the municipal fee for other agricultural vehicles – was the best way to move forward. **Farm Bureau Supports.**

Wednesday, February 17

Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Room 302, LOB

2:00 p.m. **HB 1264**, *relative to carnival or amusement ride inspections*. Makes changes to the definition of carnival and amusement rides and changes to required insurance coverage for carnival and amusement ride operators as follows (language being deleted is ~~struck through~~ language added is in ***bold italics***):

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| <p>1 Definition of Carnival or Amusement Ride. Amend RSA 321-A:1, I to read as follows:
I. “Carnival or amusement ride” means a device [which carries or conveys passengers for the purpose of giving its passengers amusement, pleasure or excitement] <i>or combination of devices that carry, convey, or direct a person or persons over or through a fixed or restricted course or within a defined area, for the primary purpose of amusement or entertainment.</i></p> <p>6 Insurance Requirement. Amend RSA 321-A:5, III(a) to read as follows:
(a) A certificate of insurance showing the operator as a named insured and confirming that insurance has been issued and is in force providing coverage for specified equipment or devices in a minimum amount of [\$300,000] <i>\$1,000,000</i> per person and [\$1,000,000] <i>\$2,000,000</i> aggregate. <i>Such certificate shall include the provision that coverage shall remain in effect until the expiration date or if canceled by the insurer prior to the expiration date for any reason, the cancellation shall not take effect until 20 days after written notice received by the director that said certificate is being canceled and the reason or reasons for such cancellation.</i></p> <p>7 Insurance Requirement. Amend RSA 321-A:5, IV(a) to read as follows:
(a) A certificate of insurance showing the operator as a named insured and confirming that insurance has been issued and is in force providing coverage for specified equipment or devices at specified locations, in a minimum amount of [\$100,000] <i>\$1,000,000</i> per person and [\$300,000] <i>\$2,000,000</i> aggregate. <i>Such certificate shall include the provision that coverage shall remain in effect until the expiration date or if canceled by the insurer prior to the expiration date for any reason, the cancellation shall not take effect until 20 days after written notice received by the director that said certificate is being canceled and the reason or reasons for such cancellation.</i></p> |
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Farm Bureau is monitoring the bill as the definition of “carnival or amusement ride” can be applied to wagon or other types of rides provided on farms.

Thursday, February 18

Judiciary, Room 208, LOB

9:00 a.m. **HB 1660-FN-L**, *relative to eminent domain for gas pipelines and relative to assessment of the land use change tax for eminent domain takings for energy infrastructure*. Makes changes to the eminent domain laws relative to pipelines. It also applies the Land

Use Change Tax (LUCT) to land enrolled in Current Use being taken by eminent domain where energy infrastructure results in increased revenue for the entity taking the land. A similar bill was defeated last session. **Farm Bureau supports the long-standing exemption to paying the LUCT for energy infrastructure as good public policy. The bill raises a number of questions. Farm Bureau Opposes.**

The Senate is scheduled to take up the following Committee Reports:

Commerce

SB 305, including fermented pear juice in the definition of cider. Ought to Pass, Vote 3-0. Senator Cataldo for the committee. **Farm Bureau Supports.**

SB 306, enabling the sampling of beer or wine at farmers' markets. Ought to Pass with Amendment, Vote 3-0. Senator Prescott for the committee. The bill as amended provides:

Amend RSA 179:44, II-a as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II-a. Notwithstanding paragraph I, wine manufacturers, beverage manufacturers, nano breweries, and

brew pubs, may provide samples for tasting to persons of legal drinking age at a farmers' market provided they have received written authorization by the town or city's governing body, which authorization shall remain effective until revoked in writing, and they have provided the commission with a copy of that authorization. Provision of samples shall be restricted to clearly defined areas approved by the commission. Samples shall be limited to one 4-ounce sample per label per person for any beer, specialty beer, or cider, and one 2-ounce sample per label per person for any wine.

Farm Bureau Supports.

This week the House and Senate acted on the following bills:

House

- Found **HB 1207-FN**, exempting wine sample fees from the meals and rooms tax, Inexpedient-to-Legislate.
- Passed and referred to the House Municipal and County Government Committee, **HB 1292**, relative to the use of abandoned agricultural property.
- Found **HB 1674-FN**, requiring the labeling of genetically engineered foods, Inexpedient-to-Legislate on a Roll Call vote of 239-122.
- Found **HB 1291**, eliminating the land use board, establishing an advisory board, and requiring approval of federal land acquisitions by the governor, executive council, and general court, Inexpedient-to-Legislate.
- Passed with amendment and referred to House Judiciary, **HB 1298**, relative to damage to private property.

Senate

- Passed with amendment and referred to Senate Finance **SB 376-FN**, relative to wildlife corridors.

**As the Legislature is on winter break the week of Feb. 22-26,
there will not be a Friday Review next week.**

Farm Vehicle Safety Day

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations

Join Merrimack County Farm Bureau for a workshop with
NH State Trooper Todd C. Ferris to learn about rules and regulations
pertaining to farm vehicles and how to stay safe on the road.

Saturday, February 20, 2016
at 10:00 am

Carter Hill Orchard
73 Carter Hill Road
Concord, NH 03301

There is still room available for you
to attend! Register with the
NH Farm Bureau Office at
nhfb3@nhfarmbureau.org
or call (603) 224-1934.

All are welcome to attend!