

Below is a list of 2019 NH General Court (House and Senate) Bills that are potentially relevant to members of the Geological Society of New Hampshire. This table lists bills identified by keyword searches completed in January 2019.

Bill Number	Title	Bill Description	Legislative Action – Bill Status
Key Word “Environ”			
HB-261	requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to revise rules relative to arsenic contamination in drinking water.	The commissioner shall initiate rulemaking within 120 days of the effective date of this paragraph to revise the ambient groundwater quality standard for arsenic not to exceed 0.5 parts per billion.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) w/amendment 03/19/2019. Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) w/amendment 05/23/2019. Full House concurred with Senate amendment 06/13/2019.
SB-202 FN-A	establishing a stormwater management and flood resilience fund within the department of environmental services	This bill establishes a fund to be known as the stormwater management and flood resilience fund, which shall be kept distinct and separate from all other funds. All moneys in the fund shall be non-lapsing and continually appropriated to the department of environmental services for the purposes of this section. II. The department of environmental services shall use the money from the stormwater management and flood resilience fund to give grants to public and non-profit organizations, such as municipalities, regional planning commissions, and other regional organizations for the monitoring, treatment of, and outreach regarding stormwater pollution and flood resilience.	Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/14/2019. Full Senate voted to lay bill on the table 03/14/2019.
HB-352 FN-A	appropriating funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible wastewater projects under the state aid grant program.	This bill appropriates funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible wastewater projects under the state aid grant program. This bill makes general fund appropriations	House Finance Committee voted 03/14/2019 to retain in committee.

		of \$3,652,347 for FY 2020 and \$3,781,024 for FY 2021 to the Department of Environmental Services to fund eligible and completed wastewater projects under the state aid program. (RSA 486).	
HB-682 FN	establishing a water resources fund in the department of environmental services.	This bill: I. Renames the wetlands and shoreland review fund as the water resources fund. II. Clarifies that certain application and permit fees are non-refundable. III. Repeals the terrain alteration fund.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) w/amendment 04/04/2019. Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 05/15/2019. Bill was the laid on the table.
HB-679	authorizing the department of environmental services to lease land associated with state-owned impoundments.	This bill directs the department of environmental services to establish a leasing program for land associated with state-owned impoundments. The lease program for land associated with state-owned impoundments and the lease program specifically for Lake Francis shall be exempt from the procedure in RSA 4:40, regarding the disposal of state property.	House Public Works and Highways Committee voted 02/14/2019 Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL). Full House voted ITL 02/14/2019
Key Word "Water"			
HB-192	abolishing fluoridation in water	This bill would prohibit the introduction of fluoride into drinking water of the state.	House Committee on Resources Recreation and Development voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/11/2019. Full House voted to lay bill on table 03/20/2019
HB-199	relative to exemptions from the groundwater permit application fee.	This bill makes nonprofits exempt from the groundwater permit application fee.	House Committed on Resources Recreation and Development voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) 03/11/2019. Full House voted ITL 03/19/2019

HB-204	establishing a committee to review and update the penalties for contaminating drinking water and ground water .	This bill establishes a committee to review the penalties for contaminating drinking water and groundwater and propose legislation to update such penalties if necessary.	House Committee on Resources Recreation and Development voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/14/2019. Full House voted to lay bill on the table 03/20/2019.
HB-707	relative to settlement money from actions pertaining to the contamination of ground water or drinking water .	This bill requires costs that are recovered from damages awarded in cases of hazardous waste clean-up after expenditures from the drinking water and groundwater trust fund be deposited in such fund.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/19/2019. Full Senate voted to rerefer to Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee 05/30/2019.
HB-495	establishing a commission on drinking water	AN ACT establishing a commission to plan for long term goals and requirements for drinking water on the seacoast. Commission includes five members of the house of representatives, senators from District 21 and 24, representatives from 13 communities and 11 stakeholder organizations. This extends the work of the RSA 485-F:5 seacoast commission. The commission shall make annual interim reports of its findings on November 1 of each year, and a final report of its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation on or before November 1, 2029.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/19/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 05/30/2019. Full House concurred with Senate amendment 06/13/2019.
HB-737	establishing a commission to investigate and analyze the environmental and public health impacts relating to releases of perfluorinated chemicals in the air, soil, and groundwater in Merrimack, Bedford and Litchfield.	The commission's study shall include, but not be limited to: (1) Obtaining information necessary to delineate the extent of PFAS drinking water contamination from airborne, soil, and groundwater releases. (2) Assessing and implementing steps necessary to investigate public health impacts from PFAS exposures to air, soil, and drinking water. (3) Assessing sources and impacts to surface water from wastewater and other discharges from the Merrimack, New Hampshire Saint Gobain plant.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/19/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 06/6/2019. Full House concurred with Senate amendment 06/13/2019.

		<p>(4) Assessing whether soil regulations are sufficient to contain contaminated materials.</p> <p>(5) Receiving updates at each commission meeting from the department of environmental services and the department of health and human services on matters including but not limited to, scientific findings and related materials, enforcement actions, and regulatory status.</p> <p>(6) Receiving ongoing copies of all correspondence between state and federal agencies and responsible parties; including but not limited to, documents related to scientific findings, interim progress and regulatory or enforceable matters from the department of environmental services and the department of health and human services.</p> <p>(7) Developing prioritized governmental and community actions.</p> <p>(8) Reviewing the progress made by state and federal agencies, if appropriate, and their partners.</p> <p>(9) Delineating the potential roles and responsibilities for municipalities, state agencies, and their partners.</p> <p>(10) Communicating to the public about the environmental and public health impacts of the PFAS exposure investigation and analysis.</p> <p>(11) Assessing whether current rules or regulations are sufficiently protective of public health and propose legislation, as necessary, to protect public health.</p> <p>(12) Recommending legislation, as necessary, to carry out the charge of the commission or resulting from any commission findings.</p> <p>(13) Assessing whether current penalties and regulatory controls are sufficiently protective of the environment and public health and recommend changes necessary.</p>	
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		(14) Assessing agreements between the state and Saint Gobain and propose additional actions necessary to achieve the charge of the commission	
HB-691 FN	relative to blood testing for individuals exposed to perfluorinated chemicals in private or public water supplies.	The department shall develop and implement a program to provide blood testing for persons exposed to perfluorinated chemicals (PFAs) through private or public water supplies at the reduced analytical laboratory price available to state contract holders. The cost of such blood tests shall be covered by the state under certain conditions.	House Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee voted Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) on 02/27/2019. Full House voted ITL on 03/07/2019
HB-443	relative to municipal watering restrictions.	This bill allows the local governing body to restrict the use of water for commercial outdoor watering during periods of drought. This bill reinstates authority the was repealed in 2017.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/20/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 05/15/2019. Full House concurred with Senate amendment 06/13/2019.
Key Word "Wetland"			
HB-542 FN-A	establishing a grant program to support municipalities in updating their wetlands regulations.	This bill establishes a wetlands regulations fund administered by the office of strategic initiatives that is non-lapsing and continually appropriated to provide grants and donations from federal and private sources to assist municipalities in updating or adopting wetlands regulations. A municipality may apply for a grant from the wetlands regulations fund in order to update or adopt municipal wetlands regulations. The bill also establishes priorities for awarding grants.	House Committee on Resources Recreation and Development voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 02/28/2019. Bill referred to House Finance Committee where it was retained 03/14/2019
HB-543	relating to the protection of wetlands	This bill defines and establishes specific protections for high value wetlands,	House Committee on Resources Recreation and Development voted

			03/14/2019 to retain in committee.
HB-326	relative to the definition of prime wetland	This bill further defines prime wetland for local protection in fill and dredge permits. Under this bill, a prime wetland shall have a width of at least 50 feet at its narrowest point across and perpendicular to its longitudinal axis, unless it can be demonstrated by the municipality that its narrower portions provide a significant contribution to the primary wetland functions of the prime wetland.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/20/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 05/15/2019. Full House did <u>not</u> concur with Senate amendment 06/10/2019. Committee of Conference to meet 06/19/2019
Key Word "Shoreland"			
HB-475	establishing a shoreland septic system study commission	AN ACT establishing a shoreland septic system study commission to study the potential impairment of surface waters in New Hampshire by inadequate residential septic systems, in the context of private property rights of landowners. The members of the commission shall include three members of the house of representatives, one member of the senate and 9 stakeholder organizations. The commission shall make an interim report on or before November 1, 2019, and a final report on or before November 1, 2020	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/20/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 04/26/2019. Signed by Governor 05/16/2019
Key Word "Waste"			
HB-617	establishing a committee to study recycling streams and solid waste management in New Hampshire	The committee shall study: I. The state of recycling programs in New Hampshire in light of changing market conditions. II. Challenges faced by the state and municipalities in running recycling programs and solid waste management. III. Such other related issues as the committee deems necessary, including potential legislation.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/20/2019. Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 05/15/2019. Full House concurred with Senate amendment 06/13/2019.

HB-358	relative to combustion of wood residue at municipal waste combustors	This bill removes the exemption for municipal waste combustors from the combustion ban, and also removes the combustion of bio-oil or biosynthetic gas from the RSA 125-C:10-c, II combustion ban. The existing combustion ban shall not apply to: (a) The incidental combustion of such materials either by any municipal waste incinerator or a municipal waste combustor with a design capacity of less than 250 tons per day of municipal solid waste, that has been permitted by the department and was in operation on January 1, 2006; or (b) The incidental combustion, under the supervision of a solid waste facility operator of untreated wood at any municipal transfer station subject to regulation under RSA 149-M.	Full House voted Ought to Pass (OTP) 03/20/2019. Full Senate voted inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) 05/15/2019.
SB-79	relative to required reporting on waste reduction	This bill requires towns to report certain information to the department of environmental services relative to solid waste reduction.	Full Senate voted Ought to Pass (OTP) with amendment 03/28/2019. House Environment and Agriculture Committee voted to retain bill in committee 05/01/2019.
HB-704	relative to the storage of nuclear waste	This bill: I. Prohibits the transportation, storage, and disposal of nuclear waste. II. Establishes nuclear waste policy advisory committee. III. Establishes the nuclear waste technical review council. IV. Establishes a spent nuclear fuel study commission.	House Science Technology and Energy Committee voted to retain bill in committee 03/07/2019. Work session scheduled for 06/11/2019.

Key word searches with no returns: **geology, rock, soil**

Key Work searches with no returns related to geology or geologists: **professional**