

Rep. Jonathan Smith, Carr. 5
February 6, 2024
2024-0530h
12/06

Amendment to HB 1468-FN-A

1 Amend the bill by replacing section 1 with the following:

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3 1 Conway Branch Planning Group. The department of transportation, bureau of rail and
4 transit, and the bureau of trails shall jointly meet, in consultation with the executive councilor from
5 district 1, a member of the house public works highway committee, a member of the senate capital
6 budget committee, a selectman or their appointed agents from the towns of Ossipee and Madison,
7 and a representative from the New Hampshire Northcoast railroad, to formulate a plan for the best
8 public use of a portion of the so-called "Conway Branch" between rail crossing in Center
9 Ossipee/Moultonville Road to the rail crossing at Route 113 in Madison and to explore the feasibility
10 of snowmobiling, walking, and biking on the existing rail corridor. The rail division shall explore the
11 costs and income related to the removal of the rail and ties where necessary to provide a level and
12 safe surface for recreational activity on the existing trackbed. The group shall explore funding any
13 trail improvements from private donations, grants and/or from the sale of the existing steel rails.
14 The 2 bureaus shall meet with this working group no less than 3 times before December 30, 2024,
15 and issue their joint findings and recommendations to the public on or before January 2, 2025, with
16 copies to the governor and executive council, the speaker of the house, the president of the senate,
17 and the towns of Ossipee and Madison.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of transportation to meet with other state and local entities to form a plan for the best use of the Conway Branch rail corridor.