

Citation Guidelines for New Hampshire References

Cite New Hampshire statutes as they appear in the published RSAs and as follows, for example:
RSA 287:4, I (Supp. 1981)

Note: Chapter (ch.) 287; section (§) 4; and paragraph (par.) I.

Some New Hampshire statutes include both a number and a letter: RSA 357-A. We use a hyphen as opposed to a dash to separate them.

When the paragraph number ends the cite within the text, any punctuation after the paragraph number is not part of the cite except when the paragraph is I. Punctuation after I makes clear that it is a paragraph number and not the letter I. For example: “RSA 287:4, II provides that . . .”, but “RSA 287:4, I, provides that . . .”

RSA 281:2, V (Supp. 1981)

RSA 597:1-a (1979 & Supp. 1981)

RSA 88-A:4, II(a)

RSA 464-A:9, III(a)-(d)

RSA 294-A:28, II(b) (Supp. 1981)

RSA 382-A:4-103

RSA 284:16-a to -c ("to" means "inclusive")

RSA 382-A:4-103 to -105

RSA 382-A:4-103, -105 (year) See Bluebook Rule 3.3(b)

RSA 637:2, :3

RSA 637:2-:4

RSA ch. 541, RSA ch. 541-A

In text: RSA chapter 541; RSA chapter 541-A

See RSA 135-C:34 (1996); RSA 171-B:2 (2002)

Laws 1967, ch. 284

Laws 1967, 284:2

PL 144:52 (1926)

Note: The date cited for a statute is the date of the most current copy of the statute’s printed version (e.g., the RSA volume and/or the Supplement, for New Hampshire) that contains the statute (or part thereof) in effect at the time of the relevant event. If the legislature amends a statute in one year, but the amendment is not effective until a specific date in the next year, the statute is cited as amended in the first year, not the year of the effective date of the amendment. For example, RSA 265:93-a, III was amended in 2003, but the amendment was effective January 1, 2004. The correct citation is RSA 265:93-a, III (1997) (amended 2003).

Examples:

1. If you are citing a statute that contains multiple paragraphs and only some paragraphs were amended since the last bound volume of the RSA was published, and the entire statute has been reprinted in the supplement, cite the supplement.

e.g., RSA 149-B:10: The most recent bound volume was published in 2005. According to the 2016 supplement, after 2005, paragraph I-a was added to the statute. Because all of RSA 149-B:10 is reprinted in the 2016 supplement, cite only the supplement. RSA 149-B:10 (Supp. 2016).

2. If you are citing one paragraph of a multi-paragraph statute and that paragraph has not been amended since the bound volume was printed, cite only the bound volume for that paragraph.

e.g., because paragraph IV of RSA 149-B:10 has not been amended since 2005, cite that paragraph as follows: RSA 149-B:10, IV (2005).

3. If you are citing a statute that has been entirely amended since the most recent bound volume was published, cite only the most recent supplement.

e.g., RSA 147-B:11-a did not exist when the 2005 bound volume was published. Accordingly, cite that provision as: RSA 147-B:11-a (Supp. 2016).

4. When giving the subsequent history of a statute, use the date on which the legislature amended the statute, not the date on which the amendment became effective.

e.g., RSA 490-D:2, VI was amended in 2013, but the amendment did not take effect until January 1, 2014. If you want to cite the version of RSA 490-D:2, VI that was in effect before January 1, 2014, cite it as RSA 490-D:2, VI (2010) (amended 2013).

5. Abbreviate “effective” as “eff.” when used in a citation to refer to the effective date of an amendment.

New Hampshire References

Bar Journal - 6 N.H.B.J. 8 (1994)

House Journal - N.H.H.R. Jour. 210-12 (1973)

Senate Journal - N.H.S. Jour. 210-12 (1973)

Judicial Council Report - N.H. Judicial Council, Fourteenth Biennial Report 22 (1986)

Municipal ordinances - Nashua, N.H., Rev. Ordinances ch. 34, art. 1, § 1 (1973)

New Hampshire Supreme Court Rules - Sup. Ct. R. 7

Superior Court Rules - Super. Ct. R. 7

This form is used for the former Superior Court Rules. They were repealed and replaced in 2013 by:

Superior Court Civil Rules – Super. Ct. Civ. R.

Superior Court Criminal Rules – Super. Ct. Crim. R.

In 2016, the court repealed the Superior Court Criminal Rules and adopted:

New Hampshire Rules of Criminal Procedure - N.H. R. Crim. P.

Superior Court Administrative Rules - Super. Ct. Admin. R.

Superior Court Sentence Review Division Rules - Super. Ct. Sentence Rev. Div. R.

Circuit Court – District Division Rules – Dist. Div. R. 7

Circuit Court – Probate Division Rules – Prob. Div. R. 7

Circuit Court – Family Division Rules – Fam. Div. R. 1.24

Former District Court Rules (prior to 7/1/11) - Dist. Ct. R. 7

Former Probate Court Rules (prior to 7/1/11) - Prob. Ct. R. 7
Former Family Division Rules (prior to 7/1/11) - Fam. Div. R. 1.24
Rules of Evidence - N.H. R. Ev. 803(2); N.H. R. Ev. 803 Reporter's Notes
Code of Administrative Rules - N.H. Admin. R., Emp 503
Rules of Professional Conduct - N.H. R. Prof. Conduct 3.4
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Reports - 64 N.H.P.U.C. 112
(1991)

NOTE: The New Hampshire Legislature (Senate and House) is not currently transcribing committee hearings. The following is a citation form that should work. The legislative IT team created its own program for the Bill Status program. Accordingly, when they make a change to the program in general, it may affect the viability of the following hyperlink citation form.

Relative to Vehicular Homicide, HB 118, 2015 Session (N.H. 2015),
http://www.gen.court.state.nh.us/bill_Status (Apr. 21, 2015 hearing, Remarks of _____, 7:49)

Explanation

Title of bill, number of bill, year of legislative session (State year), website for bill status (date of hearing, speaker who is cited, where to find in recording of hearing)

Please note that the words “Statement of Intent” and “committee report” often refer to very different sources of legislative history.