

# Government Oversight Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5578 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT AMENDING A CONVEYANCE OF A PARCEL OF STATE LAND TO  
**Title:** THE CHESPROCOTT HEALTH DISTRICT.

**Vote Date:** 4/6/2026

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 4/1/2026

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Linehan

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill amends a prior law conveying a 2-acre state owned parcel in Cheshire to the Chesprocott Health District by expanding the allowed uses of the land. The district may now permit or transfer portions of the land to nonprofit organizations for temporary housing. The conveyance remains subject to State Properties Review Board approval, and the state retains control of land until the transfer is completed.

### SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):

JFS language adds standard reverter language and provides any proceeds will go to state, and that DAS will do conveyance on behalf of DOC.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**[Michelle Gilman, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services:](#)** Offered comments and remained neutral on this bill, recommending technical revisions to clarify DAS's role in facilitating the conveyance, ensure the transfer is conducted at administrative cost, and maintain appropriate use and reversion provisions to protect the state's interest while allowing the property to be used for public health and related purposes, including limited nonprofit housing use.

**[Joshua Wojcik, Acting Secretary, Office of Policy and Management:](#)** Opposes this bill, stating that it removes standard reverted protections and would allow further conveyance to a

nonprofit without safeguards. He emphasized that either reversion language must remain to protect the state's interest, or the property should be sold at fair market value to avoid potential financial gain from a state asset.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

[Paul A. Bowman, President, Hope for Our Neighbors](#): Testified in support of the bill, stating the conveyance would allow the organization to provide temporary and long-term housing for residents facing housing insecurity, leveraging its partnership with the town and proximity to local services like the food pantry.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

[Anonymous 8 and 10](#): Left general comments.

**Reported by: Clerk- Greg Wolff  
Assistant Clerk- Mike Hamann**

**Date: 4/13/26**