

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST DEFINED AND REGULATED



The Town of Enfield, New Hampshire, pursuant to RSA 31:39-a, ordains as follows:

- I Declaration of Policy Where government is based on the consent of the governed, every citizen is entitled to have complete confidence in the integrity of that government. Each local officer/employee of the Town, whether elected, hired or appointed, including paid or unpaid members of various Town boards, commissions and committees (hereinafter referred to as "officer/employee"), must earn and honor that trust by his/her conduct in all official actions. It is the purpose of this ordinance to ensure fair consideration of any application or matter to be voted upon, and also to ensure the appearance of fair consideration, so as to maintain public confidence in the integrity of Town government.
- II An officer/employee shall be disqualified to act on a matter before the Town board or agency because of conflict of interest as follows:
 - A. Pecuniary Interest: When the officer/employee has a direct personal and pecuniary interest in a matter before the Town board or agency. Such interest includes, but is not limited to, an ownership interest, a mortgage interest, a creditor or debtor interest, or relationship.
 - B. Related by Blood or Marriage: When the officer/employee is directly related by blood or marriage to the person requesting action, or opposing action on a matter before a Town board or agency. Directly related shall mean spouse, parent, child, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, niece, nephew, grandparent, grandchild.
 - C. Employment Relationship: When the officer/employee, or a member of the officer's /employee's family (husband, wife, child), has an employment relationship with the person requesting action or opposing action on a matter before a Town board or agency.
 - D. Abutter: When the officer/employee is an abutter to the land which is the subject matter of action requested or to be taken by the Town Board or agency.

[One or more of the above grounds may apply; for example, relationship by blood or marriage to an abutter.]

Conflicts of Interest Defined and Regulated

Adopted by Town Meeting, March 14, 1989

Reaffirmed by vote of the Board of Selectmen, March 21, 2022

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III Procedure: An officer/employee shall be under a duty to disclose pecuniary interest, a relationship by blood or marriage, an employment relationship, or the relationship of an abutter when a matter is before a board or agency of which the officer/employee is a member or participant. Thereafter, the officer/employee shall not sit with the remainder of the board, shall not participate in any consideration or discussion, and shall not vote. The officer/employee may remain in the room where the board or agency is meeting, but only as a member of the audience.

Any person may inquire as to the possible conflict of interest of an officer/employee. Such officer/employee shall be obligated to fully inform the person with regard to any interest he or she may have. The refusal to disclose shall constitute a disqualification and the officer/employee shall not participate any further in the proceedings.

IV Removal Proceedings: Any person may appeal the refusal of an officer/employee to disqualify himself/herself as required under this ordinance to the Grafton County Superior Court and request that Court to remove such officer/employee from office because of disqualification under this ordinance, under the authority granted in RSA 31:39-a.

V Effective Date: This ordinance be effective as of the date of adoption by the Town Meeting, except that affected officers/employees who are in office or employed at the time this ordinance is adopted are exempt for a period not to exceed one year from the date of adoption.

Adopted by Town Meeting: March 14, 1989

Reaffirmed by vote of the Board of Selectmen: March 21, 2022

Meredith C. Smith, Chair
John W. Kluge
Katherine D. P. Stewart
Enfield Board of Selectmen