

Regulatory Fairness Board Public meeting – 6/3/2014 8:00 – 9:30 am at the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce office.

Attending: Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State, Chair. Stephen Rich, David Brenerman, Pat Kuhn

Public: Rep. Wayne Werts, Michelle Geradine, Patty Gagne, Gail Kazek (Sen. King's office) Rep. Peggy Rotundo.

Debbie French, IT support for Go To Meeting. One person (Doug Dunbar, Professional and Finance Regulation) attended via Go to Meeting.

Sec. Dunlap provided an overview of the responsibilities of the board and its charge.

Gail Kazek noted Sen. King has a website that allows small businesses to send in comments and thoughts on federal regulation, which have grown greatly – especially in the area of financial regulations.

The issues brought forward by area businesses included insurance licensure testing, that the insurance licensure test is not logical. The issue brought forward was that the test should be more straight forward and with less ambiguity. This complaint was forwarded to the Department of Professional Regulation.

Rep. Werts expressed the concern that the EMT testing is all computerized, and is pass/fail, and often the testee does not know the results for several months after taking the test.

Concerns were raised about licensure of professions in general and how it is often the actual professionals in that field that requests the licensure, not the state. The group also discussed how the profession sometimes uses licensure to limit competition from entering the field. Regulatory Fairness Board member Pat Kuhn noted she thought the State should not license cosmetologist and barbers at all.

The board and attendees also talked about how to increase participation of small businesses in the RFB meetings. One suggestion is to continue to connect with area chambers to co-host the public listening sessions.