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## Orville "Bud" Fitch To Join NHSBA As Staff Attorney

The New Hampshire School Boards Association ("NHSBA") is pleased to announce that Attorney Bud Fitch will be joining NHSBA as full time Staff Attorney/Policy Director. Attorney Fitch will begin transitioning into that role in late January, and will be working closely with current Staff Attorney and Deputy Executive Director Barrett Christina to ensure that member school boards and their administrators will continue to receive outstanding legal, policy, and training services from NHSBA.

Attorney Fitch brings a wealth of experience and expertise to his new position. Amongst his many career highlights are distinguished service with the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office, including serving as Acting Attorney General. Perhaps he is best known in the education community as the "stimulus czar."

In that position, as the Director of New Hampshire's Office of Economic Stimulus, he led the State's response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, a program designed to fund "shovel ready" public initiatives, including many in the educational arena. He worked extensively with statewide education organizations (including NHSBA), and local school boards and administrators, to facilitate the garnering of federal funding for qualifying projects.

Most recently, Attorney Fitch served as Legal Counsel and State Director for the Office of United States Senator Kelly A. Ayotte. Major responsibilities included providing legal information and constituent services on a statewide basis.

Attorney Fitch is no stranger to local and municipal government in our State. Early in his career, he was elected constable of Cornish. He then attended police academy, and upon graduation, served with the Claremont police department. Following his Claremont position, he became police chief in Plainfield, and later served seven years as chief of police in Sunapee.

Attorney Fitch holds a B.A. from the University of Minnesota. Additionally, he earned both a law degree and a master's degree in public policy from the University.

Attorney Fitch is a native of Cornish, New Hampshire, and his family continues to live there on land first settled by them in 1771.

In announcing the hiring of Attorney Fitch, NHSBA Executive Director Ted Comstock stated "We are indeed fortunate to have an attorney of Mr. Fitch's experience, expertise, and statewide reputation join our NHSBA team. We are confident that he will work tirelessly to enhance our long standing tradition of providing the best services in the areas of school law and school board policy to our member school boards."

For questions, please contact NHSBA Executive Director Ted Comstock at 603-228-2061.

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