What would HB 628 do?
Require any new public facility with a minimum capacity of 1,500 people to install a universal changing station in their family restroom.

Professional Connection
Working as a Direct Support Professional (DSP) for individuals with developmental disabilities for seven years has shown me the public need for these changing stations. Without them, an individual is often left to choose between lying on a public bathroom floor or going without a change and remaining in soiled undergarments. This denies them the basic human rights of privacy, comfort, safety, hygiene, and dignity for their personal care.

Is There a Need?
Public facilities currently do not provide access to all. Passing this bill would make it the first in New England to require Universal Changing Stations.

HB 628 Table Specifics
- Adjustable, motorized vertical lift
- Accommodates individuals up to 350 pounds
- 80 inches long
- Approximately $6,000 - $7,000 each

My Activities
- Conceive and create list of potential individual and group supporters of HB 628.
- Network with state legislators to bring attention to the issue.
- Correspond with professionals in the disability accommodation community, such as Kathy Gips from the New England ADA Center, to learn the dynamics and specifics of table installation.
- Contact and organize supporters to inform and ask for testimony on the day of the House committee hearing.
- Create FAQ and handout sheet.
- Testify on behalf of the council in favor of HB-628 to the House Committee on 3/6/19.
- Testify to the Senate Committee.

Learning Opportunity
With the Council I learned how a bill becomes law, including the rule-making process after it is passed. I had the opportunity to testify in favor of the proposed rules following the passage of New Hampshire’s He-W 837 work requirement law (above).

Conclusion & Outcomes: HB 628 passed the New Hampshire House of Representatives with a vote of 211 for, 133 against on March 19, 2019.

Next Step: Testify for Senate Committee.