

Committee Report

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 12, 2019

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Education to which was referred HB
544,**

**AN ACT relative to the governance of the Manchester
school district. Having considered the same, report the
same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO
PASS.**

Rep. Patricia Cornell

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Education
Bill Number:	HB 544
Title:	relative to the governance of the Manchester school district.
Date:	February 12, 2019
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The committee as a whole agreed that this legislation would allow Manchester to elect a charter commission to examine, revise, amend, or replace the school district charter without legislative approval.

Vote 17-0.

Rep. Patricia Cornell
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Education

HB 544, relative to the governance of the Manchester school district. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Patricia Cornell for Education. The committee as a whole agreed that this legislation would allow Manchester to elect a charter commission to examine, revise, amend, or replace the school district charter without legislative approval. **Vote 17-0.**

COMMITTEE REPORT

Cornell.

COMMITTEE: Education

BILL NUMBER: HB 544

TITLE: Relative to the governance of the Manchester School District.

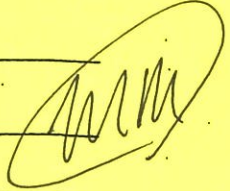
DATE: 2/12 CONSENT CALENDAR: YES NO

- OUGHT TO PASS
- OUGHT TO PASS W/ AMENDMENT
- INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE
- INTERIM STUDY (Available only 2nd year of biennium)

Amendment No. _____

STATEMENT OF INTENT:

The committee as a whole agreed that this legislation would allow Manchester to elect a charter commission to examine, revise, amend or replace the school district's charter without legislative approval.



COMMITTEE VOTE: 17-0

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

- Copy to Committee Bill File
- Use Another Report for Minority Report

Rep. Patricia Cornell
For the Committee

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 544

BILL TITLE: relative to the governance of the Manchester school district.

DATE: 2/12/19

LOB ROOM: 207

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. CORNEIL Seconded by Rep. SHAW Vote: 17-0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

OTP OTP/A ITL Retain (1st year) Adoption of Amendment # _____
 Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: X YES _____ NO

Minority Report? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep: _____ Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: Linda L. Tanner
Rep Linda Tanner, Clerk



2019 SESSION

Education

Bill #: 544 Motion: OTD AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/12/19

Relative to the governance of the Manchester School District.

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Myler, Mel Chairman	17		
Luneau, David J. Vice Chairman	X		
Shaw, Barbara E.	2		
Cornell, Patricia	3		
Doherty, David B.	4		
Le, Tamara N.	5		
Tanner, Linda L. Clerk	6		
Ellison, Arthur S.	7		
Mullen, Sue M.	8		
Riel, Cole J.	9		
Vallone, Mark	10		
Woodcock, Stephen L.	11		
Ladd, Rick M.			
Cordelli, Glenn	12		
Elliott, Robert J.			
Boehm, Ralph G.	13		
Wolf, Dan H.	14		
Allard, James C.	15		
Forsythe, Robert L.			
Lekas, Alicia D.	16		
TOTAL VOTE:	17	0	

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 544

BILL TITLE: relative to the governance of the Manchester school district.

DATE: February 6, 2019

LOB ROOM: 207

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 11:32 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:42 a.m.

Committee Members: Reps. Myler, Luneau, Tanner, Shaw, Cornell, Doherty, Le, Ellison, Mullen, Riel, Vallone, Woodcock, Ladd, Cordelli, Boehm, Wolf, Allard, Forsythe and A. Lekas

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Long

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

(1.) Rep. Pat Long - Sponsor - Introduced Manchester Mayor's letter.

Charter commission..currently unaccountable , disservice and barrier on delivering school achievement

Alderman had 2 months of attention to school budget

Hurts School Board

Give authority to school committee to develop budget

Situation presently..school committee is not a department

Charter commission to Manchester to study to see if SB can become a department of the City

Take Alderman out of the equation

Question: Why we have to come to legislation for this..need to have Gen Court to amend Manchester charter 1846 Manchester is tied to the State by a charter.

Question: Repeal on line 25.. those are statutes that the state have a hold on school district of Manchester. Must be an RSA will get it for committee

Question: Do the voters have to approve charter change? Yes

Question: Charter commission deals just with school district? Yes

Respectfully submitted;



Rep. Linda Tanner, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 544

BILL TITLE: relative to the governance of the Manchester school district.

DATE: 2/6/19

ROOM: 207

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 11:32

Time Adjourned: 11:42

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Myler, Luneau, Tanner, Shaw, Cornell, Doherty, Le, Ellison, Mullen, Riel, Vallone, Woodcock, Ladd, Cordelli, Elliott, Boehm, Wolf, Allard, Forsythe and A. Lekas

Bill Sponsors:
Rep. Long

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

1* Rep Pat Long intro Manchester Mayor's letter

Multiple horizontal lines for additional testimony entries.

From: LT <tannerwindom@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 4:04 PM
To: Johnston, Judith <Judith.Johnston@leg.state.nh.us>
Subject: Ed committee 2/6/19

HB544

Rep Long introduce

Charter commission..currently unaccountable , disservice and barrier on delivering school achievement

Alderman had 2 months of attention to school budget

Hurts School Board

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?Repeal on line 25.. those are statutes that the state have a hold on school district of Manchester. Must be an RSA will get it for committee

?do the voters have to approve charter change..yes

?charter commission deals just with school district..yes

Testimony



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Joyce Craig
Mayor

February 6, 2019

Chairman Mel Myler
NH House Education Committee
LOB Room 207
33 N. State Street
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 544

Dear Chairman Myler and Members of the House Education Committee,

Before your committee today, you have an important piece of legislation— HB 544, relative to the governance of the Manchester school district. I urge the House Education Committee to look favorably on this legislation and recommend an “Ought to Pass” motion to the full House.

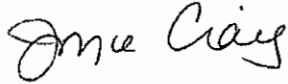
As Mayor of the City of Manchester, I preside over the Board of Mayor and Aldermen and I am a member and Chair of the Board of School Committee. This unique role, unlike anywhere else in the state, gives me a unique perspective on how these two boards interact.

I believe it is the right time for the people of Manchester to examine the current system in greater detail and recommend changes. And that’s exactly what HB 544 would provide for—an opportunity for the people of Manchester to elect a charter commission to recommend changes to the current charter.

HB 544 would be the first step in a community-wide discussion on how we govern our school district and how we can best provide all our children with a quality education and I urge you to support this important piece of legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Craig".

Joyce Craig
Mayor

cc: Manchester House Legislative Delegation
Senate President Donna Soucy
Senator Lou D'Allesandro
Senator Kevin Cavanaugh

Johnston, Judith

From: Mahoney, Ryan <RMahoney@manchesternh.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 05, 2019 6:37 PM
To: Myler, Mel
Cc: Luneau, David; Tanner, Linda; Shaw, Barbara; Cornell, Patricia; Doherty, David; Le, Tamara; Ellison, Art; Mullen, Sue; Riel, Cole; Vallone, Mark; Woodcock, Steve; Ladd, Rick; Cordelli, Glenn; Elliott, Bob; Boehm, Ralph; Wolf, Dan; Allard, JC; RobertForsythe; AliciaLekas; Johnston, Judith; Goley, Jeff; Langley, Diane; DiSilvestro, Linda; Piedra, Israel; Jeudy, Jean; Long, Patrick; Bouchard, Donald; KleinKnight, Nicole; Bouldin, Amanda; Bouldin, Andrew; Desjardin, Kathy; Gagne, Larry; Freitas, Mary; Heath, Mary; Connors, Erika; Warden, Mark; Query, Joshua; Hamer, Heidi; Smith, Tim; Griffith, Willis; Backus, Bob; Snow, Ken; Chretien, Jackie; Wilhelm, Matt; Baroody, Benjamin; Herbert, Christopher; RichardKomi; McLean, Mark; Proulx, Mark; Beaulieu, Jane; Van Houten, Constance; Soucy, Donna; D'Allesandro, Lou; Cavanaugh, Kevin; Taylor, Marlene; Caldwell, Sonja; Bryant, Laura
Subject: Letter from Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig Re: HB 544
Attachments: Mayor Craig Letter of Support HB 544.pdf

Dear Chairman Myler,

Attached please find a letter from Manchester Mayor Joyce Craig regarding HB 544, which is being heard in the House Education Committee on Wednesday. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or the Mayor.

All the best,

Ryan

Ryan Mahoney

Chief of Staff
Office of the Mayor
One City Hall Plaza
Manchester, NH 03101
T: 603.624.6500 C: 603.502.4069
<https://www.manchesternh.gov>

The Right-To-Know Law (RSA 91-A) provides that most e-mail communications, to or from City employees and City volunteers regarding the business of the City of Manchester, are government records available to the public upon request. Therefore, this email communication may be subject to public disclosure.

Representative Patrick Long
Testimony on HB 544
February 6, 2019

House Committee on Education
Representative Mel Myler, Chairman

Good morning Mr. Chairman and Honorable members of the Education Committee.

I'm Representative Pat Long serving Hillsborough District 10 Manchester.

HB 544 is a proposal in allowing Manchester's School District to take ownership and responsibility and review what the proposed Charter Commission and the voters believe would be in the best interest of all stakeholders in the Manchester School District.

I'm of the opinion that our current system particularly has it is funded, is both unaccountable and detrimental to how we deliver on student achievement.

Being a former Alderman and serving in that capacity for 10 years I witnessed and was guilty of every year putting my School funding hat on for two months and appropriating the full budget for the school district. After that appropriation my involvement with the allocation of that funding ended, the Board of School Committee has the authority to appropriate in line items they deem appropriate. For 10 months out of the year my concerns in serving my constituents was rarely if at all a school district subject, however, during the budget cycle I was expected to be knowledgeable in the needs of the school district and give them the appropriate total amount of funding. I would often hear the district's budget request and add an amount over that request and close the page patting myself on the back for giving more.

Currently serving on the school board it has become crystal clear to me to the disservice our current process produces. Manchester's Board of School Committee and our Administration has the knowledge and vision of what is needed to deliver on student achievement and with that said should be drafting their own budget.

HB 544 allows Manchester to begin that process and have the conversation with the voters.

It is ultimately the voters that will make that decision once the charter commission presents its proposal.

I ask you find HB 544 OTP and allow Manchester to begin the process in deciding what is in the best interest of their students and School District.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen

AN ACT relative to the governance of the Manchester school district.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Subdivision; Manchester School District Charter Commission. Amend RSA 49-B by
2 inserting after section 14 the following new subdivision:

3 Manchester School District Charter Commission
4 49-B:15 Manchester School District; Charter Commission Established.

5 I. A charter commission shall be established to develop a local procedure, which does not
6 require the approval of the legislature, to revise, amend, or replace the Manchester school district
7 charter, established in 1846 as amended in 1848, as amended by chapter 301 of the 1909 Laws of
8 New Hampshire, as amended by chapter 323 of the 1909 laws of New Hampshire, as amended by
9 chapter 249 of the 1915 Laws of New Hampshire, as amended by chapter 302 of the 1915 Laws of
10 New Hampshire, as amended by chapter 52 of the 1972 Laws of New Hampshire. The charter
11 commission shall submit its recommendations for a procedure to revise, amend, or replace the
12 Manchester school district charter in the form of a ballot question to the Manchester school district
13 voters for a vote at the November 2020 regular election. If the ballot question is approved then the
14 Manchester school district charter shall be revised, amended, or replaced in accordance with the
15 local procedure approved by the school district voters and, effective on the date the ballot question is
16 approved, the Manchester school district shall be solely responsible for revising, amending, or
17 replacing the charter.

18 II.(a) The charter commission shall consist of 9 members who shall be registered voters of
19 the Manchester school district, and who shall run without party designation.

20 (b) The election of charter commission members shall be held in conjunction with the
21 regular November elections in 2019 in accordance with RSA 49-B:4.

22 III. The charter commission shall have all the powers and duties of a charter commission
23 established pursuant to this chapter and shall comply with the provisions of this chapter, except as
24 otherwise indicated in this section.

25 2 Repeal. The following are repealed:

26 I. 1846, as amended by 1848, as amended by 1909, 301 as amended by 1909, 323 as
27 amended by 1915, 249, as amended by 1915, 302, as amended by 1972, 52, relative to the
28 Manchester city charter amendments.

29 II. RSA 49-B:15, relative to the Manchester school district charter commission.

30 3 Contingency. If Manchester school district voters approve a ballot question at the November
31 2020 regular election to adopt a school district charter which includes a procedure to allow the

HB 544 - AS INTRODUCED

- Page 2 -

1 Manchester school district to amend the charter without the approval of the legislature, and to
2 repeal the existing Manchester school district charter established in 1846, as amended by 1848, as
3 amended by 1909, 301 as amended by 1909, 323 as amended by 1915, 249, as amended by 1915, 302,
4 as amended by 1972, 52, then section 2 of this act shall take effect on the date such ballot question
5 is approved. If the ballot question is not approved section 2 of this act shall not take effect.

6 4 Effective Date.

7 I. Section 2 of this act shall take effect as provided in section 3 of this act.

8 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.