

Bill as
Introduced

HB 282 - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

8Apr2021... 0616h

2021 SESSION

21-0549
06/04

HOUSE BILL **282**

AN ACT relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.

SPONSORS: Rep. Ladd, Graf. 4; Rep. McGuire, Merr. 29; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Boehm, Hills. 20; Rep. J. Osborne, Rock. 4; Rep. Baldasaro, Rock. 5; Rep. Allard, Merr. 21; Rep. Hill, Merr. 3; Rep. Stapleton, Sull. 5; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Hennessey, Dist 1

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill deletes the requirement that a private school be nonsectarian in order to be approved as a school tuition program.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.

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

1 1 School Attendance; Duty of Parent; Compulsory Attendance by Pupil.. Amend RSA 193:1, I(d)
2 to read as follows:

3 (d) The child is attending a public or private school located in another state which has
4 been approved by the state education agency of the state in which the school is located, or is
5 attending a [~~nonsectarian~~] private school located in New Hampshire that is approved as a school
6 tuition program by the school board pursuant to RSA 193:3, VII;

7 2 Change of School or Assignment; Best Interest of Student. Amend RSA 193:3, VI and VII to
8 read as follows:

9 VI. If there is no public school for the child's grade in the resident district, the school board
10 may [~~assign the child to~~] **contract with** another public school in another school district or [~~to~~] **with**
11 any [~~nonsectarian~~] private school that has been approved as a school tuition program by the school
12 board [~~]. The school board may execute a contract with an approved nonsectarian private school to~~
13 ~~provide for the education of a child who resides in the school district], and may raise and appropriate~~
14 money for the purposes of the contract, if the school district [~~does not have a public school at the~~
15 ~~pupil's grade level and the school board]~~ decides it is in the best interest of the pupil. ***The district***
16 ***may either assign all children to schools that have been approved as a school tuition***
17 ***program, or allow each child's parent to choose a school from among schools that have***
18 ***been approved as a school tuition program.***

19 VII. In this section, "approved as a school tuition program" means a school that has been
20 approved and contracted by the school board to provide students with the opportunity to acquire an
21 adequate education as defined in RSA 193-E:2. Upon approval by the school board, the school shall
22 receive status as an approved school tuition program, shall be deemed in compliance with the
23 provisions of RSA 193-E:3-b, I(a) and (b), and shall qualify as a school approved to provide the
24 opportunity for an adequate education. The school shall be required to submit to the school board an
25 annual student performance progress report in a format selected by the school board, which may
26 include reporting of aggregate achievement data to protect student privacy, and that demonstrates
27 that students are afforded educational opportunities that are substantially equal in quality to state
28 performance standards for determining an adequate education. A private school that receives
29 tuition program students shall:

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1 (a) Comply with statutes and regulations relating to agency approvals such as health,
2 fire safety, and sanitation;

3 (b) Be a [~~nonsectarian~~] school ***approved and contracted by a local public school***
4 ***board to provide students with the opportunity for an adequate education;***

5 (c) Be incorporated under the laws of New Hampshire or the United States; and

6 (d) Administer an annual assessment in reading and language arts, mathematics, and
7 science as defined in RSA 193-C:6 to tuition program students. The assessment may be any
8 nationally recognized standardized assessment used to measure student academic achievement,
9 shall be aligned to the school's academic standards, and shall satisfy the requirements of RSA 193-
10 C:6 for school tuition program students. The school's annual assessment results for tuition program
11 students shall be submitted to the commissioner and school board. If the school enrolls 10 or more
12 publicly-funded tuition program students and if the school's group assessment percentile score for
13 tuition program students is less than the 40th percentile, the commissioner may require a site visit
14 to determine if the school provides the opportunity for an adequate education in accordance with
15 RSA 193-E:3-b. After the third consecutive year of a tuition program school being unable to
16 demonstrate that it provides an opportunity for an adequate education, the school may be subject to
17 revocation of tuition program status.

18 3 District Liability for Elementary or Junior High School Tuition. Amend RSA 193:4 to read as
19 follows:

20 193:4 District Liability for Elementary or Junior High School Tuition. Any district shall pay for
21 the tuition of any pupil who, as a resident of the district, has been assigned to attend a public
22 elementary or junior high school or school of corresponding grade in another district or a
23 [~~nonsectarian~~] private school approved as a school tuition program by the school board pursuant to
24 RSA 193:3, VII, and any district not maintaining an elementary or junior high school or school of
25 corresponding grade shall pay for the tuition of any pupil who, as a resident of the district, is
26 determined to be entitled to have such tuition paid by the district where the pupil resides, and who
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28 in another district, or a [~~nonsectarian~~] private school approved as a school tuition program by the
29 school board pursuant to RSA 193:3, VII. Except under contract, the liability of any school district
30 under this section for the tuition of any pupil shall be the current expenses of operation of the
31 receiving district for its elementary or junior high school or public school of corresponding grade, as
32 estimated by the state board of education for the preceding school year. This current expense of
33 operation shall include all costs except costs of transportation of pupils.

34 4 Sums of Money Required; Estimates. Amend RSA 198:4 to read as follows:

35 198:4 Estimates. The school board of each district in its annual report shall state in detail the
36 additional sums of money, if any, which will be required during the ensuing fiscal year for the
37 support of the public schools, for the purchase of textbooks, scholars' supplies, flags and

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1 appurtenances, for the payment of the tuition of the pupils in the district in high schools, academies,
2 and any [nonsectarian] private school approved as a school tuition program by the school board in
3 accordance with law, and for the payment of all other statutory obligations of the district.

4 5 Tuition. Amend RSA 194:27 to read as follows:

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7 a resident of said district, is determined to be entitled to have his or her tuition paid by the district
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11 under contract as provided in RSA 194:22, the liability of any school district hereunder for the
12 tuition of any pupil shall be the current expenses of operation of the receiving district for its high
13 school, as estimated by the state board of education for the preceding school year. This current
14 expense of operation shall include all costs except costs of transportation of pupils.

15 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 30 days after its passage.

CHAPTER 106
HB 282 - FINAL VERSION

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14 expense of operation shall include all costs except costs of transportation of pupils.

106:6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 30 days after its passage.

Approved: July 06, 2021
Effective Date: August 05, 2021

Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE
Education

Sen Ruth Ward, Chair
Sen Erin Hennessey, Vice Chair
Sen Denise Ricciardi, Member
Sen Jay Kahn, Member
Sen Suzanne Prentiss, Member

Date: April 21, 2021

HEARINGS

Tuesday	04/27/2021	
(Day)	(Date)	
Education	REMOTE 000	9:00 a.m.
(Name of Committee)	(Place)	(Time)
9:00 a.m.	HB 282	relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.
9:15 a.m.	HB 388	relative to changing a pupil's school or assignment because of a manifest educational hardship.
9:30 a.m.	HB 319	requiring students in the university and community college systems of New Hampshire to pass the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services civics naturalization test.
9:45 a.m.	HB 321	requiring school districts to submit an annual report concerning gifted and talented students.
10:00 a.m.	HB 464	relative to the commission to study school funding.

Committee members will receive secure Zoom invitations via email.

Members of the public may attend using the following links:

1. Link to Zoom Webinar: <https://www.zoom.us/j/92735479815>
2. To listen via telephone: Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): 1-301-715-8592, or 1-312-626-6799 or 1-929-205-6099, or 1-253-215-8782, or 1-346-248-7799, or 1-669-900-6833
3. Or iPhone one-tap: +13017158592,,92735479815# or +13126266799,,92735479815#
4. Webinar ID: **927 3547 9815**
5. To view/listen to this hearing on YouTube, use this link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjBZdtrjRnQdmg-2MPMiWrA>
6. To sign in to speak, register your position on a bill and/or submit testimony, use this link:
<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/remotecommittee/senate.aspx>

The following email will be monitored throughout the meeting by someone who can assist with and alert the committee to any technical issues: remotesenate@leg.state.nh.us or call 603-271-6931..

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors:

HB 282

Rep. Ladd
Rep. Osborne
Rep. Stapleton

Rep. McGuire
Rep. Baldasaro
Sen. Reagan

Rep. Cordelli
Rep. Allard
Sen. Ward

Rep. Boehm
Rep. Hill
Sen. Hennessey

HB 388

Rep. Ladd
Rep. Shaw

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Pitre

Rep. Boehm

HB 319

Rep. Moffett
Rep. Shaw

Rep. Pearl
Rep. Hobson

Rep. Lang
Sen. Giuda

Rep. Rouillard

HB 321

Rep. Moffett
Rep. Pitre

Rep. Pearl
Rep. Hobson

Rep. Lang
Sen. Giuda

Rep. Shaw
Sen. D'Allesandro

HB 464

Rep. Cordelli
Rep. Osborne

Rep. Ladd
Rep. Baldasaro

Rep. Boehm
Rep. Rouillard

Rep. Weyler
Sen. Ward

Ava Hawkes 271-4151

Ruth Ward
Chairman

Senate Education Committee

Ava Hawkes 271-4151

HB 282, relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.

Hearing Date: April 27, 2021

Time Opened: 9:04 a.m.

Time Closed: 9:50 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Ward, Hennessey, Ricciardi, Kahn and Prentiss

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill deletes the requirement that a private school be nonsectarian in order to be approved as a school tuition program.

Sponsors:

Rep. Ladd

Rep. McGuire

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Boehm

Rep. Osborne

Rep. Baldasaro

Rep. Allard

Rep. Hill

Rep. Stapleton

Sen. Reagan

Sen. Ward

Sen. Hennessey

Who supports the bill: Senator Ruth Ward, Senator John Reagan, Representative Rick Ladd, Representative Glenn Cordelli, Representative Carol McGuire, Representative Al Baldasaro, Representative Deborah Hobson, Representative Bob Lynn, Nicholas Thomas, Elliot Axelman, Eric Pauer, Bob Dunn, Alexandra Mennella, Katherine Shea, Sarah Scott, Alvin See, Kirby West, Jody Underwood

Who opposes the bill: 100 people signed up in opposition to this bill. Full sign-in sheet available upon request.

Who is neutral on the bill: None.

Summary of testimony presented:

Representative Rick Ladd - Grafton, District 4

- Representative Ladd introduced HB 282.
- He is a retired principal and schoolteacher.
- This bill deals with the approval of tuition programming.
- Many different structures and organizations throughout the state.
- When grades are not available in a specific structure, there is a need for an option to tuition these students out into another education setting.

- This bill modifies current law and allows school districts to contract with approved private schools.
- This bill, as a result of the Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue supreme court case from last year, opens contracts up to all private schools, including religious schools.
- This bill changes how parents are involved in the process and provides choice when it comes to their child being assigned to a school level not in their district.
- Currently, this responsibility is of the sending school district.
- This statutory change allows the parent choice of what approved school their child goes to.
- For instance, Piermont has tuition agreements with an academy in VT and elsewhere in NH.
- These approved schools have exceptional programs, including CTE centers.
- We are not required to provide transportation for tuition students at high school level.
- The condition in this bill is that it has to be tuition to an approved school.
- Approved school must follow statutory language found in RSA 193-E:3-b and 2-a, 1-a, 1-b.
 - They must adhere to the same accountability standards and report to NHDOE annually.
- This bill allows for the best choice based on a child's physical, emotional, etc. needs. The best person to know that is the parent.
- Senator Kahn asked Representative Ladd if this bill is specific to a district where grade levels needed are not available, therefore, an assignment outside of their district is needed.
 - Representative Ladd said yes, that is correct.
 - Very similar to what VT and ME already does.
 - This tuition program has been in place for a number of years.
 - The only real change is to include private, religious schools.
- Senator Kahn asked Representative Ladd about the supreme court case referenced in his testimony. He asked if Representative Ladd agrees that, in the case, they ruled on tuition waivers and the eligibility for them.
 - Representative Ladd said they allowed the money to follow a child to a religious school. You can't exclude based on religion as it would be discriminatory.
- Senator Kahn noted his why he disagrees. This supreme court case fails to say the teaching of a religious doctrine is in violation of the separation of church and state. He asked Representative Ladd if he agrees with that.
 - Representative Ladd said yes, he does. We should not be indoctrinating with religious doctrines.
 - Religious schools provide an approved education, according to our state statutes.

- In Los Angeles, there are 70,000 kids who go to Catholic schools. 70% of those schools are made up of various cultural backgrounds and color.
- We want a student going to a school which is the best fit for them and where they'll get the best education.
- Senator Kahn asked Representative Ladd if by removing the word "nonsectarian" from statute, does that make schools who make religious education part of their curriculum, eligible for district agreements.
 - Representative Ladd said he can't get into what happens in some of these schools.
 - The schools which are approved for tuitioning purposes must meet the same substantive criteria, i.e. the same calendars and graduation requirements.
 - He does not believe religion is integrated in the curriculum. However, there may be a cross on the wall, but not integrated into curriculum.
- Senator Prentiss asked Representative Ladd what, overall, is changing through this bill with these tuitioning arrangements. As this already exists, is the overall intent to eliminate nonsectarian and provide parents' choice.
 - Yes, parents choose where their child is assigned.
- Senator Prentiss asked Representative Ladd if these arrangements currently don't cover any and all religious schools, regardless of faith.
 - Representative Ladd said yes.
- Senator Prentiss asked if this bill would allow religious schools to be a part of that tuitioning choice.
 - Representative Ladd said it would allow tuition money to flow to a religious school. We should not deny a child an opportunity based on the fact that it is a religious school.
- Senator Prentiss asked Representative Ladd if we use public education dollars to fund religious education currently; EFAs are a whole different conversation.
 - Representative Ladd said he does not know, a question better suited for NHDOE.
 - Public money, on a post-secondary level, already flows to religious institutions, i.e. Notre Dame.
- Senator Prentiss noted that her parents paid for a religious education for her. This bill seems to be another way to nip at the edges of using public money for religious education. The cross border we currently have works very well.

Representative Glenn Cordelli – Carroll, District 4

- Supports this bill.
- This bill is required in order for NH to be in compliance with the Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue supreme court decision.
- If funds are going to a non-religious private school to exclude religious private schools, it is unconstitutional and in defiance of the First Amendment.

- Lines 17-18 of the bill, which allows each child's parents to choose from an approved tuition program, is current practice.
- He referenced a letter from earlier this month from SAU6, where this agreement offered services and enter into tuition agreements.
- The SAU6 school board is currently working on agreements with additional districts.
- They are also working on a form where parents can express where they'd like to send their children in the fall.
- There is an upcoming school fair in May which schools in the area will attend and showcase their school's opportunities.
- RSA 189:49, related to child benefit services, is the statute which notes school districts can provide services to non-public schools including money for nurse services, textbooks, etc.
- Hampton is one town that he knows of that does this. Each year, they have a ballot warrant article to provide funds to their local Catholic school under statute.
- On an annual basis, \$40,000-45,000 is sent to St. Mary's Catholic School by Hampton.
- Senator Hennessey asked Representative Cordelli if some of these schools, that could qualify through this bill, would be less expensive and closer in distance for students to attend.
 - Representative Cordelli said definitely. For example, a school in Croydon, where students have requested to attend, the tuition is lower.
- Senator Prentiss asked Representative Cordelli for the statute he referenced in his testimony.
 - Representative Cordelli said RSA 189:49, related to child benefit services.
- Senator Prentiss asked Representative Cordelli if this could pay tuition or is it a lump sum paid to a school.
 - Representative Cordelli said it is a lump sum, authorized by voters, used for allowable services noted in RSA 189:49.
- Senator Kahn noted that it seems that the primary purpose of this bill is to remove the word "nonsectarian" so that religious schools will qualify for a relationship with public schools.
 - Representative Cordelli said he believes that is the case.
- Senator Ward asked Representative Cordelli about the school fair in May and whether it is online or in-person.
 - Representative Cordelli said he believes it is in-person.
 - He plans to send the school fair information to the committee.

Jody Underwood - Chair, Croydon School Board

- Supports this bill.
- They will be directly affected by this bill.

- The term “nonsectarian” in question was put in place by the Croydon decision.
- There is already a pending court case in NH, as well as VT, that would consider it to be discrimination against religious schools as other private schools are eligible for this program.
- Separation of church and state says that students cannot be assigned to a religious school. In this case, parents would be choosing to tuition their child to a religious school.
- Sending school district would have to send to an approved school for academic or other reasons.
- Private schools are held to higher levels of accountability to the sending district than public schools.
 - They must provide annual reports of academic achievement to sending schools where public schools are not. Public schools should have to.
- As previously noted, the state already uses public dollars to send children to religious schools.
- The state also uses public dollars to send students to religious schools in other states. For instance, St. Johnsbury Academy in VT.
- School districts would not be placing students in religious schools. Parents would be.
- As long as sectarian schools are excluded by statute, there will continue to be pushback legally.
- The bill would be improved by changing it to “sectarian *or* nonsectarian” which would make the intent of the law change much clearer.
- Senator Prentiss asked Ms. Underwood if St. Johnsbury Academy is a religious school.
 - Ms. Underwood said they stand on a religious founding and carry religious ideals in the classroom.
- Senator Kahn asked Ms. Underwood who Croydon currently has a relationship with for grades 5-12.
 - Ms. Underwood said they base their selection on where parents are asking, they are open to any schools that parents request.
 - Public schools include Sunapee, Lebanon, Claremont and Newport.
 - Newport Montessori is also included.
 - Throughout the years, other private schools have been utilized as well, i.e. Campbell Union Academy, Crossroads.
- Senator Kahn said that is a pretty good selection of schools.
- Senator Kahn asked Ms. Underwood if she has reviewed the NH Constitution, chapter two, article 83, relative to public funds and private schools.
 - Ms. Underwood said yes, she is very aware of that chapter of the constitution. She was hoping this year’s constitutional amendment would have passed. She believes the supreme court cases would’ve addressed that.

- Senator Kahn said he believes the supreme court case was specific around tuition waivers with regard to religious schools.
 - Ms. Underwood said it was relative to tax credit scholarship money, which is also public dollars. Senator Kahn agreed, not tuition waivers.
- Ms. Underwood said it is discriminatory to not include religious schools in such a program.
- Senator Kahn said the unresolved question is when these religious schools require religious education, which would then be in defiance of separation of church and state.

Representative Bob Lynn – Rockingham, District 7

- Supports this bill.
- It is time to end discrimination against religious schools.
- He understands Senator Kahn’s sentiment regarding separation of church and state, but he respectfully disagrees.
- The supreme court decision did not specifically address required religious education, although a Justice pointed out the difference between a religious school and a school’s curriculum being based on religion.
- He does not believe religious schools don’t offer at least an option for a religious course.
- It would be a violation of the U.S. Constitution to discriminate against religious schools.
- As the current law says “nonsectarian,” if a school were run by a religious organization, that would be enough to exclude them from this program. This is contradictory to recent supreme court case decisions.
- As a matter of basic fairness, the Montana case said the state does not have to allow public funding to go to any private schools, but, if the state chooses to allow funds to go to some private schools, they cannot discriminate against religious schools.

Barrett Christina – Executive Director, NH School Boards Association

- Opposed to this bill.
- The bill is simply not needed.
- Our public schools are free to contract with other public schools.
- Hooksett is a great example as they contract with Pinkerton Academy.
- No need to expand this bill when options are already available.
- RSA 193-E includes an accountability provision.
- It would be prudent to ensure that private schools receiving money are indeed complying with minimum standards.
- Plans to submit written testimony due to technical issues.

Kirby West

- Supports this bill.
- Speaking on behalf of the Institute for Justice.
- The Institute for Justice is a nonprofit law firm who litigates cases surrounding educational choice.
- They represented the Espinoza supreme court case.
- They're currently involved in the lawsuit against NHDOE based on the provision before the committee today.
- If this case is resolved by the courts, the sectarian exclusion will be struck down.
- The areas that are left open are not relevant here.
- The Espinoza decision said "the state need not subsidize private education, but once the state decides to do so, it cannot disqualify some private schools solely because they are religious."
- That is exactly what the sectarian exclusion is doing here.
- It doesn't look at curriculum, it simply looks at any sectarian school, of any religion, and they are automatically excluded from the program.
- This violates the First Amendment.
- They advocate the passage of this bill as it will bring the tuitioning program in line with constitutional protections.
- This bill clarifies what towns are already doing is permissible under statute.
- Tuitioning towns are already giving parents choice to choose between schools.
- The town of Croydon, where their lawsuit is based, is already giving parents choice. This bill was enacted to allow Croydon to do this.
- With regard to lower costs in some circumstances, based on facts from their lawsuit, Mount Royal Academy's high school tuition is \$8,755 per student as where Newport's public-school costs \$15,124 per student.
- There can be significant cost savings.

Speakers

Senate Remote Testify

Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB282 on 2021-04-27

Support: 18 Oppose: 100 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 6

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>
Lynn, Bob	rjlynn4@gmail.com	603.235.7952	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes
Underwood, Jody	jodysun@gmail.com	215.801.2823	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes
Christina, Barrett M.	Not Given	Not Given	A Lobbyist	New Hampshire School Boards Association	Oppose	Yes
West, Kirby	kwest@ij.org	570.561.7719	A Lobbyist	Institute for Justice	Support	Yes
Cordelli, Glenn	Not Given	603.515.0008	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	Yes
Ladd, Rick	rick.ladd@leg.state.nh.us	603 989 3268	An Elected Official	Rep Grafton 4 Haverhill	Support	Yes
See, Alvin	absee@4Liberty.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
King, Walter	genedocwk@comcast.net	603.978.9775	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Hobson, Deb	deborahlhobson@gmail.com	603-968-5417	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No
Ward, Senator Ruth	Not Given	Not Given	An Elected Official	Senate District 8	Support	No
Ellermann, Maureen	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Doherty, David	ddoherty0845@gmail.com	16038480055	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Dahme, Patricia	Pkdme@comcast.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Scott, Sarah	sscott@afphq.org	(603) 315-27	A Lobbyist	Americans for Prosperity New Hampshire	Support	No
Blanchard, Sandra	sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	603.724.3768	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Hawkins, Brian	bhawkins@nhnea.org	603-545-7305	A Lobbyist	NEA-NH	Oppose	No
Shea, Katherine	klynshea4618@gmail.com	603.361.3534	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Morgan, Meredith	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Jones, Andrew	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Devore, Gary	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Bixby, Peter	peter.bixby@leg.state.nh.us	16037495659	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Chase, Wendy	Not Given	603.319.7259	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Baldasaro, REP AL	mbaldasaro@comcast.net	603.858.3535	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No
Graham, Nancy	nancygraham806@gmail.com	425.765.6921	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Reagan, Senator John	kathryn.cummings@leg.state.nh.us	Not Given	An Elected Official	Senate District 17	Support	No
Pimentel, Rod	Rodpimentel@leg.state.nh.us	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Schapiro, Joe	joe.schapiro@leg.state.nh.us	603.852.5039	An Elected Official	Cheshire 16, Keene	Oppose	No
Lenahan, Carol	peaseporridgehot@roadrunner.com	603.726.3449	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Storrs, Caroline	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
McBeath, Rebecca	NHStateHouse@gmail.com	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Snow, Ken	ken.snow@leg.state.nh.us	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Smiley, Julie	Smilesjusa@yahoo.com	508.918.6353	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Torpey, Jeanne	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Lincoln, Mary	mary.lincoln52@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Anderson, Robert	rgand43@gmail.com	914.261.4304	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Willing, Maura	Maura.Willing@Comcast.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Kirkland, Kimberly	kimberly@reiskirkland.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Perencevich, Ruth	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Vincent, Laura	lvlauravincen5@gmail.com	603.783.4849	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No
Richman, Susan	susan7richman@gmail.com	603.868.2758	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Hayes, Randy	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Mennella, Alexandra	am88@fastmail.com	646.610.9858	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No
Johnson, Sara	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Lewandowski, Jean	jlewando@hotmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No
Dunn, Bob	rdunn@rcbm.org	603.670.4597	A Lobbyist	Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester	Support	No

Covert, Susan	scovert@comcast.net	603.746.4486	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Damon, Claudia	cordsdamon@gmail.com	603-226-4561	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Pauer, Eric	secretary@BrooklineGOP.org	603.732.8489	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	'
Reed, Barbara	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Field, Bryan	brysciguy@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Bushueff, Catherine	agawamdesigns@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Platt, Elizabeth-Anne	lizanneplatt09@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Spencer, Louise	lpskentstreet@gmail.com	603.491.1795	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Brennan, Nancy	burningnan14@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Nardino, Marie	mdnardino@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Koch, Helmut	helmut.koch.2001@gmail.com	603.491.3306	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Radzelovage, William	radbill@earthlink.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Zimmer, Julie	juliecorkzim@gmail.com	319-560-9964	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Hamblet, Joan	joan.hamblet@leg.state.nh.us	603.205.4925	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Waterman, Raymond	prwaterman@aol.com	16034243692	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Waterman, Patricia	prwaterman@aol.com	16033450644	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Falk, Cheri	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Rettew, Annie	abrettew@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Zaenglein, Barbara	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Zaenglein, Eric	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Moses, Gena Cohen	Not Given	603-224-7289	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Laker-Phelps, Gail	lpsart@tds.net	603.798.5394	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Hunt, Martha A	mahunt@tds.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Frew, Jerry	jerry@nhsaa.org	Not Given	A Lobbyist	NHSAA	Oppose	No	'
Ballentine, John M	mikeb@btine.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Pinneo, Sarah	spinneo@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
DeMark, Richard	demarknh114@gmail.com	603.520.5582	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Straiton, Marie	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Satterfield, Peter	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Ring, Glen	glenring52@gmail.com	603.892.5192	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Baird, Cathryn	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Phillips, Jennifer	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Gordon, Margaret	Megordon98@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Hodsdon, Alan	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
BERK, BRUCE	bruce.berk.nh@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Gordon, Laurie	Lmgord23@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Liberman, Sheryl	saml54@comcast.net	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Parker, Sharon	parker20@juno.com	603.863.7348	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Cutting, Sarah	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
McGuire, Carol	Not Given	Not Given	An Elected Official	Merrimack 29	Support	No	'
Hibert, Kathy	Kathyhubert@icloud.com	603.306.9307	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Eisner, Mary	nhdem@msn.com	16034323192	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Vail, Suzanne	Suzanne.vail@leg.state.nh.us	Not Given	An Elected Official	Hillsborough County 30	Oppose	No	'
Casino, Joanne	joannecasino@comcast.net	603.746.3491	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Fenner-Lukaitis, Elizabeth	glukaitis@mcttelecom.com	16034566268	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Bates, David	dcbates70@gmail.com	603.456.2578	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Tanner, Linda	reptanner@gmail.com	603.763.4471	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Contois, James	jcontois48@gmail.com	603.504.8379	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Hamer, Heidi	Not Given	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Almy, Susan	susan.almy@comcast.net	603.448.4769	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Bruce, Susan	susanb.red@mac.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Taylor, Frances	egg lady5@gmail.com	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'
Telerski, Laura	Laura.Telerski@Leg.State.NH.US	603.320.3957	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 35	Oppose	No	'
Axelman, Elliot	alu.axelman@gmail.com	732.674.2355	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	'
Culliton, Penny	pculliton@comcast.net	603.878.4361	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	'

Grassie, Chuck	chuck.grassie@leg.state.nh.us	16039787417	An Elected Official	Strafford 11	Oppose	No	‘
Cornell, Patricia	Not Given	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Dontonville, Roger	rdontonville@gmail.com	603.632.7719	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Gilman, Representative Julie	julie.gilman@leg.state.nh.us	Not Given	An Elected Official	Exeter	Oppose	No	‘
Thomas, Nicholas	nicholas.w.thomas@uconn.edu	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	‘
Hawkins, Christine	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Stevens, Representative Deb	debstevens4ward7@gmail.com	603.820.0866	An Elected Official	My 10K constituents	Oppose	No	‘
Tucker, Katherine	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Booras, Hon. Efstathia	efstathiab73@gmail.com	603.930.3220	An Elected Official	Constituents	Oppose	No	‘
Lucas, Janet	janluca1953@gmail.com	16037267614	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Dontonville, Anne	Adontonville@gmail.com	603.632.7719	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Holden, Russell	rholden@sunapeeschools.org	603.763.4627	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Weston, Joyce	jweston14@roadrunner.com	Not Given	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Heath, Mary	Not Given	Not Given	An Elected Official	hills 14	Oppose	No	‘
Baxley, Honorable Mo	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Lonano, James	Not Given	Not Given	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	‘
Bartlett, Rep Christy	christydbartlett@gmail.com	603.717.8151	An Elected Official	Merrimack 19	Oppose	No	‘
Smith, Suzanne	zanne719@gmail.com	603.715.0086	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	‘

Testimony

Ava Hawkes

From: Jody Underwood <jodysun@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2021 9:18 AM
To: Ava Hawkes
Subject: testimony in support of HB282

Please share my testimony with the Senate Education Committee. I plan to testify at the session on Tuesday 9am, but I have a work commitment at 10am, so it would have to be before that.

My name is Jody Underwood, and I'm chair of the Croydon school board. Croydon will be directly affected by HB282, should it become law.

The addition of the term 'non-sectarian' was made as a compromise during the passage of the "Croydon Bill", to avoid court challenges over whether towns could tuition students to religious private schools. Now it needs to be changed to avoid court challenges (there is already such a court case pending) in support of the federal supreme court decision that said that it would be discrimination to exclude religious schools when other private schools are offered in a school choice program.

To be clear, districts will not be placing students in religious schools. Parents will choose the school according to their preferences.

However, as long as sectarian schools are excluded by *statute*, an opening will remain to challenge any school district that tries to:

- save its taxpayers money
- provide some of its students with a better education, or
- respect the experience and expertise of parents regarding their own children.

Of course, having said all that, the bill would be improved if, instead of *removing* 'non-sectarian', the bill changed it to 'sectarian or non-sectarian'— which would make the intent of the bill clear enough to be understood by a fifth-grader... or even a supreme court justice.

Thank you,
Jody Underwood, Ph.D.
Chair, Croydon School Board
215-802-2823 (cell)

Goshen School District

SAU #102

P.O. Box #417

Goshen, New Hampshire 03752

(603) 495-1293

Dr. Gail E. Paludi, Superintendent

School Board Members

Ms. Christine Downing, Chair

Mrs. Bonnie Belden, Vice Chair Ms. Alicia Baker

Mr. John Scranton Mrs. Laurie Wilkinson

April 12, 2021

Dear Parents of Goshen School District Students:

At the Goshen School District Annual Meeting on March 20, 2021, the voters approved the tuition agreement with SAU #6, Claremont/Unity. This tuition agreement serves to designate the schools in SAU #6 as schools of record for Goshen. It also provides for transportation to schools in SAU #6.

Another provision of this tuition agreement allows the Goshen School Board to enter into tuition agreements to offer K-12 public school choice for all Goshen students. The School Board is currently working on tuition agreements with neighboring schools.

As a family, you will need to decide where you want your children to attend school beginning with the 2021-2022 school year. At this time, we are asking you to register your children for the 2021-2022 school year using the registration information provided on our website at www.goshenschooldistrictnh.org. All forms are located under the student registration tab on the website. The admission form asks where you would like your children to attend school in the Fall of 2021. This is not a guarantee of choice but will allow the School Board to work with those districts on a tuition agreement. Students currently attending grades 7-12 in Newport are grandfathered in under the current tuition agreement with SAU #43, Newport. However, we are asking you to complete updated registration forms. All forms should be completed by May 11, 2021 and submitted to the Superintendent by e-mail or by dropping them off at the Goshen Town Hall.

We are also planning a School Fair to showcase schools in neighboring districts. The School Fair will give you an opportunity to learn more about schools of choice. The School Fair is planned for Tuesday May 4, 2021 from 5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. Additional information about the School Fair will be forthcoming. We will be posting more information on the Goshen School District website as it becomes available.

Please feel free to call me at (603)-495-1293 or send an e-mail to gpaludi@goshenschooldistrictnh.org if you have questions regarding this matter.

In Education,

Dr. Paludi



INSTITUTE FOR JUSTICE

Testimony in Support of HB 282
Kirby Thomas West
April 27, 2021

My name is Kirby Thomas West, and I am an attorney at the Institute for Justice. Thank you for inviting me to speak.

I was asked to speak about HB 282, which would amend New Hampshire's town tuitioning program. Codified in RSA 193:3, the town tuitioning program is the system for small New Hampshire towns that do not operate their own public schools. The program allows those towns to pay tuition to send their children to private schools or public schools in other districts.

First, let me first give you some background on my law firm. The Institute for Justice, also known as "IJ," is a national nonprofit firm that protects constitutional rights. One of our areas of expertise is educational choice. We are the leading experts on this issue, nationwide. Our experience in this area includes firsthand experience with town tuitioning programs like New Hampshire's. IJ is currently litigating cases related to town tuitioning programs in Vermont and Maine, in addition to an active case here in New Hampshire.

The proposed bill is a valuable reform for two reasons. First, it eliminates the requirement that a private school be "nonsectarian" to participate in the program—a requirement that, as argued in IJ's ongoing lawsuit against the New Hampshire Department of Education, violates the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Second, it brings added clarity ensuring that the statute continues to do what it was intended to do in the first place—provide New Hampshire families with choice in the education of their children.

The exclusion of religious schools from educational choice programs solely because they are religious is unconstitutional under the First Amendment—as has been confirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Espinoza v. Montana Department of Revenue*. Removing the sectarian exclusion ensures that New Hampshire's tuitioning program aligns with the Constitution's guarantee of religious liberty.

Because it is clearly unconstitutional under *Espinoza*, the sectarian exclusion is the subject of a lawsuit brought by IJ on behalf of a New Hampshire family. Dennis and Catherine Griffin, residents of Croydon, New Hampshire, send their grandson, Clayton, to Mount Royal Academy, a private Catholic school near their home. Because Croydon operates only a small elementary school, students beyond the fourth-grade level must attend private school or public schools in other districts. Under the tuitioning program, Croydon is empowered to pay these students' tuition. Although the Croydon School Board would like to extend this program to students like Clayton, who attend private religious schools, it cannot do so under the current statute. If this bill does not pass,

litigation of the Griffins' case will continue and, we anticipate, the courts will ultimately strike down the sectarian exclusion—achieving the same result as this bill at greater cost.

The second important purpose of this bill is to make more clear how the statute is intended to operate. Though some of you may already be familiar with the history of this statute, the background information is important and bears repeating. The town tuitioning statute, known at the time as the “Croydon Bill”, was passed in 2017 after—and as a direct result of—an enforcement action against the Town of Croydon. At that time, Croydon operated its tuitioning program the same way that it does today. After children graduated from fourth grade, and thus from Croydon's only school, the school board permitted families to choose which private or public school was the best fit for their students. Croydon would then pay tuition for the student to attend the chosen school. Because this was not clearly permitted by statute at the time, the Department of Education brought an enforcement action to put an end to the practice. As a result, this Legislature passed the Croydon Bill to ensure that Croydon families could continue to benefit from the choice provided by Croydon's preferred system.

In spite of the fact that the Croydon Bill was passed to ensure that Croydon's choice program could continue to operate, the statute could be more clear in explicitly allowing programs like Croydon's. Specifically, the proposed bill states that if a town wishes to give parents a choice in what school their children attend, that town can do so. This would allow Croydon more clear authority to continue their program. It would also give other towns in the town tuitioning program the option to allow parents to choose the best school for their children's needs, instead of having the school district choose a school for them.

This Legislature did the right thing in 2017 by passing the Croydon Bill to broaden the educational choice offered to New Hampshire families. HB 282 builds on that important work by broadening that choice to include religious schools, and clarifying the options available to school districts under New Hampshire's town tuitioning system.

Thank you for your time.

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SAU 90 Article 4 – Child Benefit Services

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate funds in the amount of \$39,729 to provide child benefit services, in accordance with RSA 189:49, for students who are residents of the Hampton School District and attend Sacred Heart School located in Hampton, New Hampshire. BY PETITION. (Majority vote required).

What it means: NH state law, specifically RSA 189:49, permits a local school district to provide child benefit services for resident students attending other schools. Hampton voters have for a number of years provided funding to Sacred Heart School in Hampton to benefit students there with school nurse services, instructional materials, etc. The \$39,729 requested this year is \$5,871 less than last year due to changing enrollment in that school.

Those in favor say: It saves money for the Town that some parents choose to send their children to a private school. These funds support services that the children would otherwise be receiving if they attended public school.

Those against say: No one spoke against this article at the public meetings.

Fiscal Impact: At the proposed cost level, there will be a reduction in taxes versus last year of about 80 cents for a home valued at \$404,000.

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Article 6: SAU 90 Sacred Heart School Child Benefit Services – \$45,600

To see if the School District will vote to raise and appropriate funds in the amount of \$45,600 to provide child benefit services, in accordance with RSA 189:49, for students who are residents of the Hampton School District and attend Sacred Heart School located in Hampton, New Hampshire. BY PETITION. (Majority vote required).

What it means: Sacred Heart School is a private school in town. 48 Hampton residents attend Sacred Heart as opposed to attending the Hampton public schools. This Article asks for an offset for child benefit services in lieu of the taxpayers paying for the students to attend public school.

Those in favor say: These students would otherwise be attending the public schools at

an Average cost per student of \$15,212. The Article asks for \$950 per student. These funds help to cover a nurse, educational technology, supplies and textbooks. Funds are not used for any religious purposes.

Those against say: One speaker had an issue with supporting a religious organization, even if the funds were not specifically used for religious purposes.

Fiscal Impact: The average Hampton home valued at \$329,000 would bear an increased tax cost of \$5.40 in 2016 if this Article passes. Approval of this Article affects 2016 only.

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A Thinking Hamptonite

Ava Hawkes

From: Barrett Christina <bchristina@nhsba.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 2:09 PM
To: Ruth Ward; Erin Hennessey; Suzanne Prentiss; Denise Ricciardi; Jay Kahn
Cc: Ava Hawkes; Jessica Bourque
Subject: HB 282

Dear Honorable Members of the Committee –

Please accept this email as the New Hampshire School Boards Association’s written comments relative to HB 282. Thank you again for your patience with me earlier this morning as I navigated connectivity challenges during the Zoom hearing.

NHSBA opposes HB 282 for the following reasons.

First, various speakers stated that one intent of HB 282 is to modify provisions of SB 193 to comply with the recent United States Supreme Court opinion in the Espinoza case. In brief, the Supreme Court held if a state offers any sort of program that is offered to private entities (in this case, private schools through a voucher program) the state cannot exclude religious institutions from benefitting from or participating in such program, based solely on that institution’s religious status.

RSA 193:3, VI and VII create a “school tuition program” in which a public school can contract with a private school to provide educational services, if public school does not offer educational services for certain grades or grade levels. Language in the current statute prohibits a religious school from participating in a “school tuition program.” HB 282 seeks to add religious schools to allowable educational providers under this program.

Related, some speakers stated that the intent of HB 282 was to avoid lawsuits, under the presumption that current provisions of RSA 193:3, VI and VII conflict with the Espinoza decision; and that such conflict might result in lawsuits filed against the state.

NHSBA proffers that if one intent of HB 282 is to avoid lawsuits, the easiest solution is to repeal the “school tuition program”. Rather than the Legislature trying to navigate this bill through various committees, hearings, and possible court challenges, simply eliminated this program will resolve the potential lawsuit issue altogether. NHSBA believes this is the easiest answer before this committee.

Second, repealing the “school tuition program” is prudent because testimony during today’s hearing showed that many school districts already offer parents with “school choice”. Therefore, the program and HB 282 are not needed. There was testimony that Piermont offers choice to multiple school districts. Likewise, for Croydon, Goshen, Barrington, and Hooksett. And there are undoubtedly more examples statewide.

Further, Senator Hennessey asked if tuition at these private schools was less expensive than the cost per pupil at many public schools. While that may be the case, NHSBA believe such a comparison does not take into consideration the numerous state-mandated expenses public schools endure that private schools do not.

Public schools are required to provide and pay for special education services; private schools are not. Public schools are required to contribute to the New Hampshire Retirement System; private schools are not. Public schools are required to provide transportation for students in grades one through eight; private schools are not. There are, with certainty, numerous other examples.

Ironically, under RSA 189:9 public schools are required to transport private school students. The statute states in whole

“Pupils attending approved private schools, up to and including the twelfth grade, shall be entitled to the same transportation privileges within any town or district as are provided for pupils in public schools.”

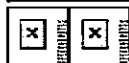
Last, NHSBA is in agreement with and supports Rep. Ladd’s testimony that private schools participating under the “school tuition program” are required to abide by all requirements of an adequate education under RSA 193-E and NHDOE Rule Ed 306 (Page 1, Lines 21-24; Page 2, Lines 3-4). Rep. Ladd specifically cited that these private schools are required to comply with the input-based and output-based accountability systems found in RSA 193-E. If the Legislature intends on expanding RSA 193:3, VI and VII via HB 282, NHSBA believes it would be prudent for this Committee to ascertain whether or not the private schools current in this program are fully compliant with these provisions before voting on the bill.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if NHSBA can be of assistance.



Barrett M. Christina

Executive Director
NH School Boards Association
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Ava Hawkes

From: Barbara D. Reed <bdreed74@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 10, 2021 3:26 PM
To: Ruth Ward; Erin Hennessey; Jay Kahn; Denise Ricciardi; Suzanne Prentiss; Ava Hawkes
Subject: HB 282; HB 388

I am a NH resident and voter for the past 50 years. I am opposed to the Ought To Pass for both of these bills. The education of our children is essential to New Hampshire's future. Regarding HB 282, the removal of the term "nonsectarian" could mean that a student could be forced to attend an "approved school" even if out of the local school district and would imply both private and religious schools are an acceptable placement for those students, whether or not the parent(s)/guardian's wish that placement. The economic implications for the local school district could be very high, as private and religious schools are usually higher than public schools and the sending district would have to pay for the tuition, books and other expenses for the receiving school, thereby likely increasing the property tax burden for the sending town. In regard to HB 388, it also will force the parent(s)/guardian pay for the transportation, regardless of the financial impact for that family, no matter how far away that receiving school is. In the bill is this statement: "Manifest educational hardship" means that a student has a documented physical, mental, or emotional condition brought on by his or her current educational placement and that such condition has a detrimental or negative impact on the student's academic achievement or growth, physical safety, or social and emotional well-being. Such condition must be severe, pervasive, or persistent so as to interfere with or limit the ability of the student to receive an education." (quote from the bill) In my opinion, it could allow discrimination against that child with the Manifest educational hardship by forcing him/her to attend that alternate school, rather than being able to receive his education locally. Barbara D. Reed North Swanzey NH 03431-4513

Ava Hawkes

From: Jean <jlewando@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 15, 2021 7:02 PM
To: Ava Hawkes
Subject: oppose HB282

Dear Education Committee:

I wish to register my strong opposition to an amendment to HB282 eliminating the prohibition against giving tax money to sectarian schools. My husband and I are retired public school teachers, and we are more than happy to do our part to contribute our fair share to public education. We are not at all happy to have our tax dollars siphoned off by private schools whose focus is indoctrinating children in religious dogma that I may or may not find wrong or offensive. Since the current push toward a voucher system all but eliminates public oversight, there would be no guarantee that the money we contribute to religious education isn't used to introduce children to dangerous radicalism without the legal assurance now included in HB282. Taking public dollars and laundering them through "education savings accounts" is bad enough; using them to promote religious ideology is exponentially worse.

Jean Lewandowski
Ward 5, Nashua

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Voting Sheets

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Senate Education Committee
EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD
2020-2021 Session

Bill # HB 282

Hearing date: 4/27/21

Executive Session date: 5/4/21

Motion of: OTP Vote: 3-2

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Ward, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Hennessey, VC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ricciardi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Kahn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Prentiss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: _____ Vote: _____

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Ward, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Hennessey, VC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ricciardi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Kahn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Prentiss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion of: _____ Vote: _____

Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes	No
Sen. Ward, Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Hennessey, VC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Ricciardi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Kahn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Prentiss	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reported out by: Sen. Ward

Notes: _____

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SENATE
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

THE COMMITTEE ON Education

to which was referred **HB 282**

AN ACT

relative to a private school that is approved as a
tuition program.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 3-2

Senator Ruth Ward
For the Committee

Ava Hawkes 271-4151

EDUCATION

HB 282, relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.

Ought to Pass, Vote 3-2.

Senator Ruth Ward for the committee.

Docket of HB282

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to a private school that is approved as a tuition program.*Official Docket of HB282.:*

Date	Body	Description
1/9/2021	H	Introduced (in recess of) 01/06/2021 and referred to Education HJ 2 P. 42
3/4/2021	H	Public Hearing: 03/04/2021 01:45 pm Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/97017007180 / Executive session on pending legislation may be held throughout the day (time permitting) from the time the committee is initially convened.
3/11/2021	H	Executive Session: 03/11/2021 09:00 am Members of the public may attend using the following link: To join the webinar: https://www.zoom.us/j/95090800832
3/24/2021	H	Majority Committee Report: Ought to Pass with Amendment #2021-0616h (Vote 12-8; RC) HC 18 P. 39
3/24/2021	H	Minority Committee Report: Inexpedient to Legislate
4/8/2021	H	Amendment #2021-0616h : AA VV 04/08/2021 HJ 6 P. 21
4/8/2021	H	Ought to Pass with Amendment 2021-0616h: MA RC 198-178 04/08/2021 HJ 6 P. 21
4/13/2021	S	Introduced 04/08/2021 and Referred to Education; SJ 12
4/22/2021	S	Remote Hearing : 04/27/2021, 09:00 am; Links to join the hearing can be found in the Senate Calendar; SC 21
5/4/2021	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 05/13/2021; SC 23
5/13/2021	S	Sen. Sherman Moved Laid on Table, RC 11Y-13N, MF ; 05/13/2021; SJ 15
5/13/2021	S	Ought to Pass : RC 14Y-10N, MA ; OT3rdg; 05/13/2021; SJ 15
6/11/2021	S	Enrolled Adopted, VV, (In recess 06/10/2021); SJ 19
6/11/2021	H	Enrolled (in recess of) 06/10/2021
7/7/2021	H	Signed by Governor Sununu 07/06/2021; Chapter 106; Eff: 08/05/2021

NH House

NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill Number: HB 202

Senate Committee: Education

Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside

Final docket found on Bill Status

Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides}

Bill version as it came to the committee

All Calendar Notices

Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)

Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing

Hearing Report

N/A Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office

Committee Action Documents: {Legislative Aides}

All amendments considered in committee (including those not adopted):

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

Executive Session Sheet

Committee Report

Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}

All floor amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate):

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

___ - amendment # _____ ___ - amendment # _____

Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office}

___ Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proposed by the committee of conference):

___ Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)

___ Governor's Veto Message

All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}

___ as amended by the senate ___ as amended by the house

final version

Completed Committee Report File Delivered to the Senate Clerk's Office By:

Committee Aide

Date

Senate Clerk's Office AK