

CONSENT CALENDAR

February 9, 2022

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Committee on Education to which was referred HB
1453,**

**AN ACT relative to transportation to a chartered public
school. Having considered the same, report the same
with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is
INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Linda Tanner

FOR THE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	Education
Bill Number:	HB 1453
Title:	relative to transportation to a chartered public school.
Date:	February 9, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The bill puts unreasonable and impractical requirements on local school districts. School districts are responsible to provide home to school transportation for charter school students. In cases where the charter school may be a considerable distance from the student's home, the student may wait at an intermediate drop off location, like an elementary school, as part of their route to their destination charter school. The bill would prohibit this practice unless that is also done for other students. The bus routing for schools is a complex issue. From large districts to small, from urban to rural, bus routes take in many stops and routes to get the children to their assigned school and home in a safe, efficient, and timely way. Students both from the district schools as well as charter schools sometimes wait at a school in order to board a bus to their final school destination. The committee felt that the routes should be left to the local district school board which will continue to make bussing decisions for children in order to provide for a safe, efficient, and timely mode of transportation.

Vote 18-0.

Rep. Linda Tanner
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Education

HB 1453, relative to transportation to a chartered public school. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.** Rep. Linda Tanner for Education. The bill puts unreasonable and impractical requirements on local school districts. School districts are responsible to provide home to school transportation for charter school students. In cases where the charter school may be a considerable distance from the student's home, the student may wait at an intermediate drop off location, like an elementary school, as part of their route to their destination charter school. The bill would prohibit this practice unless that is also done for other students. The bus routing for schools is a complex issue. From large districts to small, from urban to rural, bus routes take in many stops and routes to get the children to their assigned school and home in a safe, efficient, and timely way. Students both from the district schools as well as charter schools sometimes wait at a school in order to board a bus to their final school destination. The committee felt that the routes should be left to the local district school board which will continue to make bussing decisions for children in order to provide for a safe, efficient, and timely mode of transportation. **Vote 18-0.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1453

BILL TITLE: relative to transportation to a chartered public school.

DATE: February 9, 2022

LOB ROOM: 207

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Tanner

Seconded by Rep. Hobson

Vote: 18-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Melissa Litchfield, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # ~~1453~~ 1453

BILL TITLE: transportation to transportation
DATE: 2/9/22 to a chartered public school
LOB ROOM: 207

MOTION: (Please check one box)

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

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

MOTION: (Please check one box)

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

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

MOTION: (Please check one box)

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

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


MOTION: (Please check one box)

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES NO

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

Respectfully submitted:  _____
Rep. Melissa Litchfield, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK



1/10/2022 8:57:50 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2022 SESSION

Education

Bill #: 1453 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 2/9/22

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Ladd, Rick M. Chairman <i>last</i>	18		
Cordelli, Glenn Vice Chairman <i>first</i>	1		
Litchfield, Melissa A. Clerk	2		
Boehm, Ralph G.	3		
Lekas, Alicia D.	4		
Moffett, Michael	5		
Hobson, Deborah L.	6		
Ford, Oliver J.	7		
Soti, Julius F.	8		
Nelson, Bill G.	9		
Myler, Mel Walz, Mary Beth <i>Second</i>	11		
Luneau, David J. <i>First</i>	10		
Cornell, Patricia			
Tanner, Linda L.	12		
Ellison, Arthur S.	13		
Mullen, Sue M.	14		
Woodcock, Stephen L.	15		
Porter, Marjorie	16		
A. Hall, Muriel C.	17		
TOTAL VOTE:	18	0	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING on Bill # HB1453

BILL TITLE: relative to transportation to a chartered public school

DATE: 1/26/22

ROOM: 207

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 1:50 pm

Time Adjourned: 2:35 pm

Committee Members: Reps. Ladd, Cordelli, Boehm, A. Lekas, Moffett, Hobson, Ford, Soti, B. Nelson, Litchfield, Myler, Luneau, Cornell, Tanner, Ellison, Mullen, Woodcock, Hall and Porter

***Rep Maureen Mooney**

This bill prohibits bus routes for chartered public school pupils from using transfer stations, depots, or terminals where students take multiple buses unless such transfer stations, depots, or terminals are also used for transportation of district students.

Rep Boehm and Rep Lekas, Have questioned why limit ourselves when these systems are working for some private schools.

Rep Mullen, Has she taken into consideration maximum times for a child to be on a bus.

Response: No.

Rep Tanner, Have you thought at all how this will impact the rural parts of NH? She gave a current scenario.

Response: The bill would not apply to the scenario as stated.

Kim Lavallee, self, - Supports

Just looking for equal treatment for Charter school students.

Attorney Bob Best - Supports

supports the bill, he is also looking for equal treatment for Charter school students.

Barrett Christina, NH DOE -Opposed

Many of his concerns have already been flushed out. He is opposed to this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Melissa Litchfield, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB1453 on 2022-01-26

Support: 2 Oppose: 3 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Humphrey, Patricia	Chichester, NH pghu@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/22/2022 3:51 PM
Best, Robert	Merrimack, NH RobertLBest@Comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 7:07 PM
Vogt, Robin	PORTSMOUTH, NH robin.w.vogt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/24/2022 7:52 AM
Howes, Debrah	Bow, NH president@aft-nh.org	A Lobbyist	president@aft-nh.org	Oppose	No	No	1/26/2022 1:46 PM
Brackett, Glenn	Hooksett, NH communications@nhaficio.org	A Lobbyist	NH AFL-CIO	Oppose	No	No	1/26/2022 6:42 PM



Barrett M. Christina, Executive Director
Brenda Willis, President, Derry Cooperative
Holly Kennedy, First Vice-President, Hinsdale
Travis Thompson, Past-President, Exeter Regional Cooperative

25 Triangle Park Drive, Suite 101
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Phone: (603) 228-2061
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January 25, 2022

Dear Chairman Ladd and members of the House Education Committee,

On behalf of the New Hampshire School Boards Association, please accept this correspondence as NHSBA's written testimony relative to the multitude of bills listed below, related to the provision of special education services and related to general education in charter schools:

HB 1047: relative to the chartered public school joint legislative oversight committee.

HB 1074: relative to notice to a chartered public school of a special education services meeting.

HB 1132: relative to applications for a charter conversion school.

HB 1141: relative to special education services for children in chartered public schools.

HB 1193: relative to chartered public school fees and enrollment policies.

HB 1212: relative to charges for chartered public school transportation.

HB 1402: relative to inclusion of chartered public schools in school district bond issuance votes.

HB 1428: relative to the provision of special education services by chartered public schools.

HB 1453: relative to transportation to a chartered public school.

HB 1499: relative to chartered public school eligibility for state school building aid.

There are also two Senate bills related to charter schools:

SB 238: relative to special education services in chartered public schools.

SB 386: relative to the determination of state adequate education grants and chartered public school tuition amounts.

It should be noted that local districts have attempted to gain clarity around the provision of special education services in public charter schools, offering information and fiscal impacts, as well as providing additional data to, and gathering additional information from, the New Hampshire Department of Education.

In 2021, the NH State Board of Education was scheduled to hold two “retreat” days, to discuss special education in charter schools, stating that experts, as well as those in the field, would be presenting to the state board, in a collaborative effort to potentially revise the charter school rules to reach a better understanding between charter schools and local districts. While the state board did hold one day of “retreat” to discuss general education in charter schools, the days dedicated to addressing special education in charter schools were never held.

It is also important to recognize that New Hampshire is the only state which handles special education in public charter schools in our current format. There are no other states to look to, in regards to implementation of special education services by multiple districts based on the student’s district of residence in one charter school, and to address the complexities of this model.

NHSBA would support the possibility of a Memorandum of Understanding being developed by the Department of Education, to be used between public charter schools and local school districts, which would encapsulate the concerns brought forth in the charter school bills filed this session. Additional topics addressed could include, but not be limited to such topics as what is considered the least restrictive environment, rate setting by the Department of Education for charter schools to bill back to local districts for special education or related services, transportation of students to charter schools, meeting notification, etc. All of these concerns are currently left to local districts now, to negotiate with each separate charter school where students attend. For some districts, this can mean trying to meet with between 5-10 charter schools, some far from the district of residence.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any further questions or if NHSBA can be of any further assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca R. Wilson, NHSBA, Director of Governmental Relations

Rep. Maureen C. Mooney
Town of Merrimack (Hillsborough #21)

<u>Testimony:</u>	HB 1453 AN ACT relative to transportation to a chartered public school
<u>Hearing:</u>	House Committee on Education ~ January 26, 2022 at 1:30pm
<u>Position:</u>	In <u>Support</u> as Prime Sponsor

My name is Maureen Mooney, a State Representative for the Town of Merrimack in Hillsborough County, district #21. I am the prime sponsor of **HB 1453 AN ACT** relative to transportation to a chartered public school. I am **in support** of this bill.

As background: Chartered public school students who reside in the school district the chartered school is located in can ride the district's buses to and from school. [For example, a student who resides in Manchester and attends a Manchester chartered public school can take the Manchester school buses to and from school. Whereas, a student living outside the town/city where a chartered public school is located cannot use that district's school buses. Therefore, for example, a Windham or Merrimack student attending a public chartered school in Manchester cannot use Manchester buses for transportation.]

HB 1453 expands RSA 194-B:2, V to ensure the phrase "*same terms and conditions*" applies across the board when it comes to bus transportation. The bill forbids "transfer stations, depots, or terminals" ***if*** the school district where the school is located does not have these means to transport students. A transfer station, depot or terminal is another location where students congregate or are dropped off to essentially catch connecting buses to their final destinations.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and service to our State.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rep. Maureen Mooney

HB 1453 - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2181

10/11

HOUSE BILL **1453**

AN ACT relative to transportation to a chartered public school.

SPONSORS: Rep. Mooney, Hills. 21; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Healey, Hills. 21; Rep. Lynn, Rock. 7; Rep. Weyler, Rock. 13; Rep. Notter, Hills. 21

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits bus routes for chartered public school pupils from using transfer stations, depots, or terminals where students take multiple buses unless such transfer stations, depots, or terminals are also used for transportation of district students.

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 Two

AN ACT relative to transportation to a chartered public school.

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

1 1 Chartered Public Schools; Transportation; Schedules. Amend RSA 194-B:2, V to read as
2 follows:

3 V. Attendance at a chartered public school for the purposes of transportation shall not
4 constitute assignment under the provisions of RSA 189:6 and RSA 189:8. Pupils who reside in the
5 school district in which the chartered public school is located shall be provided transportation to that
6 school by the district on the same terms and conditions as provided for non-chartered public schools
7 in the district and utilizing the same regular bus schedules and routes that are provided to pupils
8 attending non-chartered public schools within that district. ***A resident school district shall not***
9 ***use bus routes for chartered public school students which include transfer stations, depots,***
10 ***or terminals where students take multiple buses to travel to and from their chartered***
11 ***public school unless the use of such transfer stations, depots, or terminals also applies to***
12 ***the transportation of non-chartered public school students in the district.***

13 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.