# CONSENT CALENDAR

# March 8, 2022

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# **REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

The Committee on Education to which was referred HB 1663,

AN ACT relative to requirements for home education students. Having considered the same, report the same with the following amendment, and the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH

AMENDMENT.

**Rep. Glenn Cordelli** 

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk Cc: Committee Bill File

# **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Education
Bill Number:	HB 1663
Title:	relative to requirements for home education students.
Date:	March 8, 2022
Consent Calendar:	CONSENT
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2022-1028h

# STATEMENT OF INTENT

This amended bill updates and clarifies several statutes related to home education. It updates the definition of home education to state that it is provided, coordinated, or directed by a parent to their own child. Also updated are the notification requirements for starting or terminating home education. It also removes home education proficiency requirements so as to be in line with public schools.

Vote 18-1.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk Cc: Committee Bill File

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

Education

HB 1663, relative to requirements for home education students. OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for Education. This amended bill updates and clarifies several statutes related to home education. It updates the definition of home education to state that it is provided, coordinated, or directed by a parent to their own child. Also updated are the notification requirements for starting or terminating home education. It also removes home education proficiency requirements so as to be in line with public schools. **Vote 18-1.** 

Original: House Clerk Cc: Committee Bill File

Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4 Rep. Layon, Rock. 6 March 8, 2022 2022-1028h 10/05

#### Amendment to HB 1663

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after section 2 with the following:

 $\mathbf{2}$ 3

3 Home Education Program; Notifications. Amend RSA 193-A:5, III to read as follows:

 $\mathbf{4}$ III. Written notice of termination of a home education program shall be filed by the parent  $\mathbf{5}$ with the commissioner of education, [and, in addition,] the resident district superintendent, or the 6 nonpublic school principal within 15 days of said termination.

 $\overline{7}$ 8

4 New Paragraph; Home Education; Notifications. Amend RSA 193-A:5 by inserting after paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

9 V. Any parent who previously notified the resident district superintendent of a home 10 education program who moves from said district shall notify the original resident district 11 superintendent that the child has moved from the district and shall provide notification pursuant to 12paragraph I.

135 Home Education; Records; Educational Evaluation. Amend RSA 193-A:6 to read as follows:

14193-A:6 Records; Evaluation.

15I. The parent shall maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home 16education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or 1718developed by the child. Such portfolio, which at all times remains the property of the parent, 19shall be preserved [by the parent] for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

20II. The parent shall provide for an annual educational evaluation in which is documented 21the child's demonstration of educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age [and], 22ability, and/or disability. The child shall be deemed to have successfully completed [his] an 23annual evaluation upon meeting the requirements of any one of the following:

24

(a) A certified teacher or a teacher currently teaching in a nonpublic school who is 25selected by the parent shall evaluate the child's educational progress upon review of the portfolio 26and discussion with the parent or child;

27(b) The child shall take any national student achievement test, administered by a person 28who meets the qualifications established by the provider or publisher of the test. Composite results 29at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency;

# Amendment to HB 1663 - Page 2 -

1	(c) The child shall take a state student assessment test used by the resident district[-
2	Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such state test shall be deemed reasonable
3	academic proficiency]; or
4	(d) The child shall be evaluated using any other valid measurement tool mutually
<b>5</b>	agreed upon by the parent and the commissioner of education, resident district superintendent, or
6	nonpublic school principal.
7	6 Effective Date.
8	I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

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

# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1663**

**BILL TITLE:** relative to requirements for home education students.

**DATE:** March 8, 2022

**LOB ROOM:** 205-207

### MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

Amendment # 2022-1028h

Moved by Rep. Cordelli Seconded by Rep. A. Lekas Vote: 18-1

#### CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

**Statement of Intent:** 

Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Melissa Litchfield, Clerk

# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill #  $\frac{1}{6} \left( \frac{3}{2} \right)$ 

BILL TITLE:		
DATE: $3/5/22$ LOB ROOM:		
MOTION: (Please check one box	)	
□ OTP □ ITL	□ Retain (1 <sup>st</sup> year)	□ Adoption of →
	□ Interim Study (2nd year)	Amendment # (if offered)
Moved by Rep	Seconded by Rep	
MOTION: (Please check one box)		
□ OTP 🖓 OTP/A □ ITL	🗆 Retain (1st year)	Adoption of
	🗆 Interim Study (2nd year)	$\frac{1}{(if offered)}$
Moved by Rep. <u>Cordelli</u>	Seconded by Rep	<u>Vote:</u>
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
MOTION: (Please check one box)	)	
□ OTP □ OTP/A □ ITL	🗆 Retain (1st year)	□ Adoption of
1	□ Interim Study (2nd year)	Amendment #
		(if offered)
Moved by Rep	Seconded by Rep	(1) 0)/erea)
Moved by Rep	Seconded by Rep	
Moved by Rep MOTION: (Please check one box)	Seconded by Rep	
Moved by Rep MOTION: (Please check one box)	Seconded by Rep	Vote:
Moved by Rep MOTION: (Please check one box)	Seconded by Rep	Vote:



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

### 2022 SESSION

Education

1663 Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ AM #: \_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 3/8/22 Bill #: 5

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

Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4 Rep. Layon, Rock. 6 March 8, 2022 2022-1028h 10/05

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2 3

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7 4 New Paragraph; Home Education; Notifications. Amend RSA 193-A:5 by inserting after
8 paragraph IV the following new paragraph:

9 V. Any parent who previously notified the resident district superintendent of a home 10 education program who moves from said district shall notify the original resident district 11 superintendent that the child has moved from the district and shall provide notification pursuant to 12 paragraph I.

13

14

5 Home Education; Records; Educational Evaluation. Amend RSA 193-A:6 to read as follows:

193-A:6 Records; Evaluation.

I. The parent shall maintain a portfolio of records and materials relative to the home education program. The portfolio shall consist of a log which designates by title the reading materials used, and also samples of writings, worksheets, workbooks, or creative materials used or developed by the child. Such portfolio, which at all times remains the property of the parent, shall be preserved [by the parent] for 2 years from the date of the ending of the instruction.

II. The parent shall provide for an annual educational evaluation in which is documented the child's demonstration of educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age [and], ability, and/or disability. The child shall be deemed to have successfully completed [his] an annual evaluation upon meeting the requirements of any one of the following:

24 25

26

(a) A certified teacher or a teacher currently teaching in a nonpublic school who is selected by the parent shall evaluate the child's educational progress upon review of the portfolio and discussion with the parent or child;

(b) The child shall take any national student achievement test, administered by a person
who meets the qualifications established by the provider or publisher of the test[. Composite results
at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency];

### Amendment to HB 1663 - Page 2 -

1 (c) The child shall take a state student assessment test used by the resident district[-2 Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such state test shall be deemed reasonable 3 academic proficiency]; or

4 (d) The child shall be evaluated using any other valid measurement tool mutually 5 agreed upon by the parent and the commissioner of education, resident district superintendent, or 6 nonpublic school principal.

7 6 Effective Date.

8

I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

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

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING on Bill # HB1663 BILL TITLE: relative to requirements for home education students DATE: 2/3/22

**ROOM: 205-207** 

Time Public Hearing Called to Order: 11:00 AM

Time Adjourned: 12:20 PM

<u>Committee Members</u>: Reps. Ladd, Cordelli, Boehm, A. Lekas, Moffett, Hobson, Ford, Soti, B. Nelson, Litchfield, Luneau, Cornell, Tanner, Ellison, Mullen, Woodcock, Walz and Porter

#### Rep Erica Layon, prime sponsor

I have come to address the ambiguity of the home schooling rules. This does not have any impact on the taxpayers. The bill clarifies provisions for home education programs concerning notifications required for students moving to a new district, educational evaluations, and termination of home education. She does have some language to offer to make this bill more clear. Although she does realize that amendments do come through the committee. This bill addresses the classic homeschoolers. They pay their property taxes for the public schools, but take their own time and money to educate their children. They want to do everything right. They want to know what the laws are so that they do not make a mistake. Some of these students perform and test well above grade level. Do they need to take an assessment at grade level, if possibly they are a grade or two above? Today we are talking about the unfunded 193A home school students that are unfunded.

Rep Cordelli, Just so we are clear, you are talking about homeschoolers, not parents that are homeschooling with an EFA.

Response: These are people who do not want the state money, and they are very happy to do it on their own.

#### \*Robert Clegg, former Senator, supports this bill

This is not about the EFA program. He is reading testimony from an individual in the field. Studies show the homeschooled do as well or better than those in public schools in adulthood. Current state law shows that all homeschool students must score at the 40th percent tile. Yet, for public school students, many score below the 39th percentile. This is not equitable, and it is discriminatory toward homeschool children. There is no cutoff score for children to continue in a public school, yet there is for those who are homeschooled. The important thing is not whether a student is below x or y on a standardized test, it is about growth. Research shows that the homeschooled children in states with higher regulations do any better than those in states with less regulated homeschooling regulations.

# \*Michelle Levell, Director and Co-Founder Granite State Home Educators, all volunteer, she supports this bill.

Part 4 of bill, relative to children with disabilities. This 40th percentile standard is unique to unfunded home school programs. Students in public schools cost an average of 18k per student, but do not have requirements regarding where they fall on the assessments.

Public school students may opt out of the state annual assessment, but home school students may not.

Students with disabilities is the fastest growing group of homeschoolers.

Homeschoolers are not asking for funding, services, and they are just looking for the current legislation to be cleaned up. These children are looking for a level playing field.

# Abigail Bellemore, in support of the bill, will be sending an email.

# Sarah Scott, Americans for Prosperity, supports the bill

A bill which clarifies requirements for home school students.

Assures that each district will have a policy for all homeschooled students to participate in school activities. This bill would make sure that students are not left waiting, when wanting to participate in classes, etc.

On a personal note, throughout the time that she was homeschooled, she participated in various courses such as p.e., art, etc

This bill requires that homeschooled children with disabilities be held to the same standard to those at a more traditional standard than a higher standard.

# J.R. Hoell,

Previously a State Rep from 2010 to 2018, he and his wife homeschooled their children. His oldest has a 3.92 paying his own way through school without loans. His other child has 4.0 and is paying for his own education. This goes to show that homeschool parents can do a good job.

He is also in support of changes with Rep Layon's amendment.

Notification from town to town gets ugly, and he is not sure if notification is even necessary, but that is for another day.

## Amanda Weedon, home educator in NH - Supports

She is leader, Co-founder, and member of Granite State Home Educators. She is also a leader in Christian Home Educators. I am a special needs home education representative and advocate. She does info sessions, blogs, you tube, hoards education materials, goes to school board meetings, follows legislation, and she does all of this for free. She homeschools four children, ages 15 to 6. She also homeschools a special needs child.

They have found objectives in this.

- 1. An equal access policy- change from may to shall. Homeschoolers will get access to current curricular and extra curricular activities.
- 2. Removes language that implies home education students need oversight by an organization. It is parent driven. There are no other parties to agree on anything.
- 3. Notifying agencies need to know if homeschool students move.
- 4. Removed academic thresholds, and protects special education home schooled children.
- 5. Currently Public schools use arbitrary means to place home school students. These students are asked for proof of education if they re-enroll in public education. Yet other students are simply placed based on age and grade.

Rep Cordell, We have had a lot of discussion regarding federal IDEA law. As a homeschool mom you are not covered by IDEA.

Rep Woodcock, is there a repository showing a number of homeschooling parents.

Response: We do need to look at who needs to be notified when moving.

Rep Mullen, How many students actually take these co-curricular classes

Response: Yes, there are a tremendous amount of students who participate in these other activities. Rep Luneau, Could you comment on whether or not the homeschool statute refers to the same minimum academic standards that is referred to for public schools. Are homeschools held to the same academic standards as public schools?

Response: The home school requirements are listed out. The accountability falls on the parent. Rep Luneau, That's fine, but are the standards the same. The minimum academic standards the same.

Response: We have our own set of academic requirements.

## Russian Chester, supports the bill,

I had children with disabilities, when it came to standardized testing in the public school, they asked me to keep my disabled child home on testing day and to send gifted child in to take the standardized test.

### Isaac Shea, supports bill,

A home-schooled child who spoke on behalf of himself for the rights of homeschooled parents and children.

### \*Adriann Buttafocok, supports the bill

Asking for equal rights for homeschooled children. She gave an example of how her child's laptop broke during the pandemic. Approached the public school to borrow one for a few weeks (public school had obtained laptops during pandemic through a grant and had extras). She was refused the laptop.

## \*Angel Brisson, supports bill,

The homeschools program is meant to be parent directed, and it is not fair that they are held to a different standard.

#### \*Carrie LeSage, supports bill,

She thinks it would bring some much needed clarity for unfunded homeschoolers. This bill rectifies an inequitable requirement in the current law. This bill also clarifies that parents are in charge and not the school administrators.

### \*Jody Underwood, Chair of the Croyden School District, member of SDGA - Supports

Supports bill and changes, but feels this bill does not go far enough. Nobody is taking kids out of public schools for not meeting the 40th percentile.

#### Catie McLaughlin, supports bill, homeschooling parent, supports the bill

Homeschooled for twelve years- oldest child is heading off to college and the youngest is 6. The homeschool program is unfunded and wants to keep their liberties.

## \*Deborah Mears, Tri- City Christian Academy Participating Agency,

Refer to her testimony regarding reporting.

#### Mike Donnelly, HSLDA, Senior Counsel, Professor of Law,

With those changes on the amendment, he would support this bill. Most states do NOT require homeschoolers to do assessments. Other states with assessments required have much lower

percentiles.

# Alyssa Buttafoco, supports the bill

A home school student. She has asked to be afforded the same rights as public schools students. For example, use of musical instruments.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Melissa Litchfield, Clerk

# SIGN UP SHEET

# To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # HB 1663

\_\_\_\_\_ Date 2 13 122

Committee EDU

# \*\* Please Print All Information \*\*

				(check	cone)
Name	Address	Phone		Pro	Con
REP. JOHN	1 OTO LER	ROCK. E	2	R	
Rep D Joi	inson B	elknep 31	ecenta	X	
Carrie LeSage	Candia, NH	603-568-9648		~	
Michael Donny	1 gradstwn W	m 5404547780	HSLDA		
Sarah Chant	Adain Salish	NY, NH 674-	4242 myself	X	
Kristin Denysyk	135) Old Hillsboro Rd Hennig	ker 03242 (603)74	8-9742 myself	/	
Noelle MeLauchlin	8 Oak Dr. Hampton	Falls (603) 51	9-5353 myself	1	
Amanda Buttafo				EV.	
Cate Mc Laughtin	8 Oaktr	Hangton Falls	NH 6035831270	$\bigvee$	
Alyada Bi	thorace 44+	singston 203	3-6022929	V	
Jody Under and		NH NH		V	
Adriana Brettet		NH 203.5		V	
Elissa Rad	e Bristo	1 NH	self	V	
Erica Arndt	windhar	m, NH	self	$\checkmark$	
Walter Kursc	L Warne	SNH	4214	1	
CHAU KELLEY	Alooksel	F, NH		V	
Ken Eyrin	g wind	lan		1	
DORCAS KURSCI		cook N.H		~	
Rep Illohael Ya	kubovich Mor	desett Uli	lorimaek-24	V	
Kep Carol M	coure .	0.1	Merr 29	V	
Bussan Che	sto Be	dford	self	V	
Davil Keby	Atic	ensen	self	~	

# **House Remote Testify**

# Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB1663 on 2022-02-03 Support: 258 Oppose: 47 Neutral: 3 Total to Testify: 0

# Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Gall, Amy	Bath, NH amyginnh@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	• •	Oppose	No	No	1/20/2022 6:26 PM
Chamberlain, Maria	Milan, NH sophiaclassical@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2022 7:19 PM
Wright, Sheri	Rochester, NH sheriwright22@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/21/2022 10:34 PM
Kolb, Ellen	Merrimack, NH ellenkolbnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/23/2022 3:18 PM
Maynard, Kara	Pembroke, NH mamakara@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/23/2022 8:10 PM
Correira, John	Gilford, NH john.correira@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 1:28 PM
Bobolia, James and Jennifer	Derry, NH jjbobolia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 4:18 PM
King, Jenny	Manchester, NH jennyeverettking@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 7:10 PM
Wood, Zephan	Pembroke, NH zephanw@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/24/2022 11:21 PM
Gagne, rep.larry	Manchester, NH lgagne25@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 5:13 PM
Gagne, Sheila	Manchester, NH sgagne126@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/26/2022 5:14 PM
Collins, Kelly	Hancock, NH kellyanncollins@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 12:43 PM
Korzen, Lori	Berlin, NH lekorzen@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 1:05 PM

Turcotte, Angela	Dover, NH daredfam217@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 1:14 PM
Moore, Jenai-Marie	Rochester, NH jenai123@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/27/2022 1:34 PM
Johnson, Courtney	Pelham, NH Knuckiez05@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 9:06 AM
Gerhard, Jason	Northfield, NH freestater@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 9:28 AM
Anderson, Shayla	Merrimack, NH Shaylan85@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 9:54 AM
Sedille, Veronica	Center Barnstead, NH vsedille25@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 9:58 AM
Anderson, Rebecca	Dover, NH rebeccatamar@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 1:49 PM
Kessler, Michelle	Lee, NH greenturtle22@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 2:58 PM
Rice, Colleen	Nashua, NH Mom2mattandkat@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 3:10 PM
Rice, Daniel	Nashua, NH Ricedanielj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 3:11 PM
Potucek, Representative John	Rockingham 6 - Derry, NH potucek1@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself & My Constituents	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 3:34 PM
Albers, Jennessa	Brentwood, NH Ex3albers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 3:58 PM
Albers, Christopher	Brentwood, NH Calbers86@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 3:59 PM
Albers, Elessa	Brentwood, NH Jafiorino87@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 4:00 PM
Clock, Crystal	Candia, NH cclock44@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 4:24 PM
Lindsey, Amanda	Farmington, NH amandalindsey@rocketmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 4:50 PM
Guaraldi, Sara	Canaan, NH Sguaraldi820@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 5:33 PM
Oljey, Melissa	Deerfield, NH Oljeyfam@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 6:49 PM

Oljey, Timothy	Deerfield, NH Oljeymelissa@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 6:49 PM
Caron, Cynthia	HUDSON, NH theatrecj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 7:53 PM
Harris, Natasha	Antrim, NH natashamarie523@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 8:23 PM
Chicoine, Brian	Manchester, NH brian.chicoine@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/29/2022 8:27 PM
Prevost, Stephen	Goffstown, NH slp71881@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 6:07 AM
Prevost, Eileen	Goffstown, NH lee_prevost@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 6:28 AM
Lorento, Janelle	Bow, NH Jlprevost122@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 7:55 AM
Lorento, Joe	Bow, NH J.lorento@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 7:56 AM
Marcotte, Kristy	Brookfield, NH kristypav@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 11:08 AM
Underwood, Jody	Croydon, NH jodysun@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 5:11 PM
Myers, Kara	Bennington, NH Karajanemyers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 6:24 PM
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2022 7:13 PM
Amato, Jaimie	Berlin, NH Jamato082@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 7:30 PM
Amato, Freddie	Berlin, NH Jamato082@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 7:41 PM
Stinson, Benjamin	Concord, NH benrkstinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2022 8:35 PM
Marcoux, Sarah	Northfield, NH marcouxhouse@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 8:46 PM
Marcoux, Joseph	Northfield, NH Joeymarcoux@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 8:46 PM
Hall, Angela	Chester, NH angelahall8298@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 8:50 PM

Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/30/2022 9:36 PM
Frink, Heather	Salisbury, NH hrfrink@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 10:13 PM
Barth, Katherine	Berlin, NH booblue39@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/30/2022 10:55 PM
Ames, Sarah	Moultonborough, NH quarab58@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 8:46 AM
DeWitt, Sarah	Exeter, NH brillopad9@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 10:54 AM
Aron, Judy	South Acworth, NH judy.aron@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 10:54 AM
Plourde, Vickie	Milan, NH vickie.plourde@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 11:56 AM
Ross, Allison	Gorham, NH aross@ne.rr.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 12:11 PM
Hartzell, Bethany	Berlin, NH bethany.hartzell@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 12:48 PM
Hutchison, Heidi	Dover, NH Heidishutchison@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 1:41 PM
Downs, Nathan	Dover, NH nathan.a.downs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 2:10 PM
Langellotti, Jodi	Dover, NH startsfromwithin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 2:11 PM
Noonan, Colleen	Dover, NH cmnoon52@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 2:31 PM
Schuman, Diana	Dover, NH deesch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 2:48 PM
Zaenglein, Barbara	AMHERST, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 3:28 PM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 3:30 PM
Zaenglein, Eric	Amherst, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 3:34 PM
O'Neill, Sandra	Madbury, NH sandy_oneill@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 3:47 PM

Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 4:23 PM
Petrusewicz, Carol	Rochester, NH clmcc2befree@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 4:34 PM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	None	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 5:03 PM
Marshall, Stephanie	Exeter, NH stephmarshall@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 5:15 PM
Badger, Margaret	Nashua, NH humbledpeg86@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 5:23 PM
Minton, Faith	Warner, NH minton.faith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 7:33 PM
Clark, Denise	Milford, NH denise.m.clark03055@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 8:01 PM
Fenner-Lukaitis, Elizabeth	Warner, NH glukaitis@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/31/2022 8:11 PM
Lawless, Lauren	Hooksett, NH laurenlawless@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 8:21 PM
Rader, Elissa	Bridgewater, NH Elissa.arndt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 8:26 PM
Harrington, Barbee	Barrington, NH sully@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 8:42 PM
Desmarais, Nancy	Pembroke, NH gingerpup1@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/31/2022 8:50 PM
Folger, Tammy	Farmington, NH Omafolger@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 12:06 AM
Altemose, Pamela	Rochester, NH altemose@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:18 AM
clock, sean	candia, NH clocksean@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:55 AM
Reed, Marisa	Rochester, NH mararejoy@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 8:31 AM
Cutting, Sarah Ellen	ALEXANDRIA, NH mrscutting211@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 9:42 AM
Kelley, True	Warner, NH true@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 10:02 AM

Pellettieri, Judith	Warner, NH judithpellettieri@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 10:03 AM
Hawley, Clair	Berlin, NH clairmihawley@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 12:12 PM
Bryant, Daron	Manchester, NH daronbryant84@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:01 PM
CLARK, SUSAN	TILTON, NH sukieclark@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 2:03 PM
Walbridge, Tracy	Rochester, NH tracywalbridge@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:09 PM
Morrison, Michelle	Windham, NH Michellemorrison815@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:21 PM
Morrison, Timothy	Windham, NH 9973Stroker@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:23 PM
Morrison, Tayla	Windham, NH Michellemorrison815@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:24 PM
Delafontaine, Alyssa	Berlin, NH northerngirl2003@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:40 PM
Delafontaine, Julie	Berlin, NH jadel92@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:42 PM
Folsom, Jennifer	Londonderry, NH jenniferolsen5@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 2:56 PM
Amato, Dino	Berlin, NH Dpamato1@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 3:04 PM
Amato, Antonio	Berlin, NH antamato75@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 3:22 PM
Strycharz, Sarah	Concord, NH sarah@nhforever.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 4:09 PM
White, Sara	Hillsboro, NH goscorwin@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 4:37 PM
Miller, Deborah	Milton, NH beeunh@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:38 PM
Weeden, Aaron	Rochester, NH Cryhavok@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:39 PM
Buck, Sydney	Berlin, NH sydney.buck18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:44 PM

Sara, Sara	Londonderry, NH sarat725@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:45 PM
Tomlin, Janice	Seabrook, NH janeytom@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:45 PM
Hynes, Elizabeth	Exeter, NH hibiscusbud@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:48 PM
Hansen, Nicole	Barrington, NH nm_bouchard@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 5:52 PM
Seaman, Jessicah	Derry, NH Ajseaman@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:06 PM
Avery, Virginia	Deerfield, NH vavery224@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:06 PM
Lyndsey, MacDougall	Barrington, NH lyndsey@macdougallnet.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:07 PM
Martel, Heather	Rochester, NH heather.martel75@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:48 PM
Hardwick, Sara	Francestown, NH bens_girl1011@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:54 PM
Koenig, Karen	Rochester, NH jewel23n@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 6:55 PM
Marchuk, Mercy	Dover, NH Mercymarchuk@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 6:55 PM
Sohmer, Mark	Raymond, NH mark@sohmer.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 7:04 PM
Tanguay, Kristal	Derry, NH kristalf82@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 7:04 PM
Lallo, Niomi	CLAREMONT, NH niomi600@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Home	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 7:09 PM
Amato, Aj	Berlin, NH ajamato112515@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 7:38 PM
Amato, Alfio	Berlin, NH ajamato112515@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 7:39 PM
York, Barbara	Sunapee, NH spiders1120@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 7:53 PM
Thomas, Amy	Gorham, NH jimandamythomas2014@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 8:03 PM

Brooks, Jill	Dover, NH Jillannbrooks@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 8:19 PM
Pliakos, Sarah	Goffstown, NH Sarah9183@comcast.net	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 9:34 PM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/1/2022 9:37 PM
Russell, Angela	New Durham, NH Therussells10@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 9:43 PM
Radcliffe, Cassandra	New Durham, NH cssmcvr@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 9:43 PM
Smith, Lisa	Berlin, NH lisa.m.hauser@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 9:44 PM
Rader, Matthew	Bridgewater, NH Matthewrmx@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 9:45 PM
Belous, Olga	Manchester, NH Olga.belous14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 10:39 PM
Rousseau, Ericka	Merrimack, NH erickarouss@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/1/2022 11:04 PM
Villnave, Tina	Danville, NH tinavillnave@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:10 AM
Smith, Katelyn	Hooksett, NH klyndh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 1:08 AM
Richardson, Bryan	Alexandria, NH marks-dad@ipatriots.us	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 2:57 AM
Wilson, Denise	Windham, NH jaxwilsons@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 3:24 AM
Catanuso, Alyx	Deerfield, NH Hfnh.district11@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 4:04 AM
Supry, Ruthann	Salisbury, NH rsupry30@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:57 AM
Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 7:28 AM
Burton, Thomas	Keene, NH thesurfking@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Neutral	No	No	2/2/2022 7:37 AM
Hinebauch, Mel	Concord, NH melhinebauch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 7:59 AM

Brennan, Nancy	Weare, NH burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 8:31 AM
Bekkering, Candace	Bedford, NH bekkeringc@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 8:36 AM
Arndt, Erica	Windham, NH erica.arndt8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:31 AM
Akers, Mariah	Sanbornville, NH mariaheakers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:34 AM
Akers, James	Sanbornville, NH mariaheakers@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:34 AM
Stonebanks, Sandra	Concord, NH sandrastonebanks@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:09 AM
Christensen, Lora	Antrim, NH loravaillancourt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:14 AM
Moore, Michael	Rochseter, NH Mcmoore0824@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:56 AM
Doherty, David	Pembroke, NH ddoherty0845@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 11:01 AM
Somers, Marie	Chester, NH Townpound77@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:18 AM
thompson, julia	durham, NH maple371@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 11:20 AM
Lietsch, Niki	Bath, NH nikilietsch@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:20 AM
Kelley, Elizabeth	Conway, NH patandlizkelley@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:39 AM
Mahoney, Elisabeth	NORTH HAVERHILL, NH Calgonnow13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:41 AM
Kelley, Patrick	Conway, NH highway22h1@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:44 AM
Scribner, Leah	New Durham, NH Leahdevost@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:44 AM
Scribner, Cory	New Durham, NH Hikingeverything@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:45 AM
Wilson, Sarah	Conwqy, NH Sarah.star.wilson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 11:51 AM

Locke, Natalie	Concord, NH natalielocke@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:09 PM
Frazee, Courtney	Auburn, NH cmkasaras@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:14 PM
Frazee, Daniel	Auburn, NH Dfraze1pacnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:14 PM
Blount, Katie	Derry, NH Greeneyedchipmunk@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:26 PM
Kelley, Ethan	Conway, NH weathin2002@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:27 PM
Blount, William	Derry, NH Williamkatieblount@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:27 PM
Berger, Stacey	Warren, NH Bergerstac@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:41 PM
Groen, Destiny	Rochester, NH destinyjoelle@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 12:45 PM
Holtz, Melody	Warren, NH mholtz.contact@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 1:02 PM
Reed, Sarah	Concord, NH stubbs.saraha@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 1:31 PM
Reed, William	Concord, NH willie.b.reed@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 1:32 PM
Nalette, Leeca	Derry, NH leeamnalette@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 1:57 PM
Coleman, Bethany	Deerfield, NH hellobethcoleman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 2:13 PM
Courchaine, Sarah	Sanbornton, NH simplybalanced@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 2:14 PM
Bartlett, Susan	Warner, NH suebartlett@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 2:21 PM
Zuech, Sarah	Laconia, NH loeb_sarah@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 2:26 PM
Littlefield, Esther	Rochester, NH Fivemoose@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 2:58 PM
Hall, Hilary	Salem, NH Hil.faye@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 3:00 PM

Alamo, Leila	Weare, NH leila.alamo@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:08 PM
Devost, Lynda	New Durham, NH lynda.devost@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:18 PM
Ean, Pamela	Concord, NH pamean@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:28 PM
Shultz, Tammy	Merrimack, NH Tammy.shiltz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:29 PM
Nugent-Mullarkey, Patricia	Nottingham, NH mamacita45@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:41 PM
Mullarkey, Jr., William	Nottingham, NH bmllrky@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:43 PM
Mullarkey, III, William	Nottingham, NH stubblybog6@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 3:47 PM
Madden, Tara	Stratham, NH taramaddenvt@me.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 4:24 PM
Supry, Crystal	Gorham, NH Crystal-jean@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 4:36 PM
Mathews, Jessica	Kingston, NH jazzmorin@icloud.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 4:44 PM
Weymouth, Elena	Derry, NH Tepeterson30@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 4:46 PM
Brown, Michelle	Moultonborough, NH brown.m08@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 4:48 PM
Harrington, RScott	Barrington, NH rscott.harrington@outlook.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose No	No	2/2/2022 4:50 PM
Sullivan, James	Milton, NH Jmikesull@aol.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 5:00 PM
Abbott, Catherine	Portsmouth, NH cabbott25@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 5:01 PM
McHugh, Leah	Deerfield, NH Lmchugh89@aol.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 5:02 PM
Sullivan, Jerra	Milton, NH Jmset@aol.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 5:02 PM
Maville, Lara	Canaan, NH lara@mavilledesign.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support No	No	2/2/2022 5:07 PM

Kelley, James	Conway, NH jamespkelley2000@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:19 PM
Szalowski, Jessica	Derry, NH dr.jess.dc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:33 PM
McKinley, Bonnie	Manchester, NH Cwmckinley@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:40 PM
McKinley, Chris	Manchester, NH Cwmckinley@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:40 PM
Malcolm, Ashley	Tilton, NH ashley.malcolm86@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:57 PM
Geiser, Joanne	Nottingham, NH Luckyshot.8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 5:59 PM
Richardson, Donna	Conway, NH ladylight05@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:04 PM
Richardson, David	Conway, NH davidjohnrichardson12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:05 PM
Wilson, Zachary	Conwqy, NH Zachary.david.wilson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:16 PM
Berard, Jessica	Raymond, NH Jhyson86@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:19 PM
Cote, Lisa	North Hampton, NH Lisapcote@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:36 PM
Richardson, Rachel	Washington, NH sillynovember1st@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:36 PM
Palanski, Sae-Hee	Derry, NH spalanski1230@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 6:45 PM
Axelman, Elliot	Hooksett, NH alu.axelman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:00 PM
Emerson, Patti	Milford, NH patti.emerson@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 7:03 PM
Doyle, Erika	Henniker, NH doyleerika84@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:18 PM
Vance, Jake	Greenland, NH Jacobvancea@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:20 PM
Umlah, Kelly	Henniker, NH Kellyumlah4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:25 PM

Cheney, Robin	Meredith, NH Doyamine604@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:29 PM
Cushman, Leah	Weare, NH leah.cushman@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:41 PM
Denysyk, Kristin	Henniker, NH kristin@denysyk.me	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 7:50 PM
Rettew, Annie	Concord, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 8:15 PM
McKeen, Melissa	Barnstead, NH melcmckeen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 8:24 PM
Brisson, Angel	Manchester, NH Angelbrisson72@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 8:54 PM
Brisson, David	Manchester, NH Overmann@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 8:55 PM
Gavin, Leah	Rochester, NH LeahGavin33@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:15 PM
Savell, Paige	ANTRIM, NH pedensavell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:18 PM
Aronson, Laura	MANCHESTER, NH laura@mlans.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/2/2022 9:18 PM
Flint, Nikki	Rochester, NH RNobel@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:24 PM
Green, Christiane	New Hampton, NH Greenhavenfoodie@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:49 PM
Cobble, Lacee	Milford, NH CobbleHomeschool@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 9:54 PM
Rohrbacher, Michelle	Barrington, NH michellerohrbacher777@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:26 PM
Rohrbacher, Ian	Barrington, NH ianrohrbacher777@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:27 PM
Donnelly, Michael	Purcellville, VA miked@hslda.org	A Lobbyist	HSLDA, our nearly 1000 member families, and like minded citizens	Neutral	No	No	2/2/2022 10:38 PM
Freymann, Marion	North Sutton, NH mlfreymann@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:39 PM
Wagster, Emily	Keene, NH ewagster@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:43 PM

Vitko, Juliana	Berlin, NH annointed90one@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2022 10:51 PM
Jeziorkowski, Amber	Strafford, NH a.jeziorkowski@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 12:04 AM
Cooledge, Mary	Rochester, NH Mmreed31@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 12:14 AM
Lawson, Melissa	Moultonborough, NH Sapphire_starss@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 12:21 AM
Harvey, Fancy	Newmarket, NH fancipants1@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 12:49 AM
Groen, David	Rochester, NH Dmgroen@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 1:13 AM
Nault, Nichole	Pelham, NH Nicki24755@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 1:36 AM
Dionne, Amanda	Nashua, NH Shaygoober@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:15 AM
Chylinski, Teresa	Londonderry, NH t_chylinski@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:40 AM
Richard, Peter	Londonderry, NH petrich@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:42 AM
Perez, Jessica-Lynne	Nashua, NH jessicalynne.marie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:51 AM
Rousseau, Pauline	Strafford, NH Pauline@rousseaus.us	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 3:53 AM
Watkins, Valerie	Kensington, NH Valerilyn@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 4:38 AM
Carrier, Lindsey	Concord, NH Lindseykristen5@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 5:27 AM
Manney, Richard	Goffstown, NH Heyrjfm@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:03 AM
Edwards, Caroline	Londonderry, NH carolinedwards@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:04 AM
Phinney, Thea	Rochester, NH tphinney1029@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/3/2022 6:16 AM
Rowell, Kathleen	Lee, NH kbluemle@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:18 AM

Picard, Carol	Milton, NH Sevenpicards@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:43 AM
Marrocco, Elizabeth	Londonderry, NH bebmarr@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:50 AM
Kennedy, Ashley	Henniker, NH mrsaok15@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:56 AM
Pond, Lisa	Stratham, NH extranachica@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 7:16 AM
Quinlan, Alexis	Hooksett, NH amosquera0707@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 7:51 AM
Richardson, Wendy	Conway, NH Butterfly91011@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:00 AM
Richardson, Jason	Conway, NH Jasonrichardson7@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:01 AM
Carlson, Stacy	Strafford, NH stacycarlson68@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:32 AM
Scaer, Beth	Nashua, NH bscaer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:35 AM
Adams, Linda	Laconia, NH Lestinor@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:41 AM
Hall, Aimee	Derry, NH Aimee63071@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:44 AM
Wason, Nancy	Barrington, NH Nancywason.home@Gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:50 AM
Scott, Meranda	Chester, NH scottskm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:52 AM
Hill, Rep Greg	Northfield, NH greghillNH@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Merrimack #3	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 8:56 AM
Lahey, Lea	Tilton, NH Ljlahey18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 9:04 AM
Cates, Sarah	Loudon, NH godsprincess22012@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 9:27 AM
Markey, Carrie	Rumney, NH cmarkey99@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 9:29 AM
Carrier, Deanna	Rochester, NH Shwdc1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 9:39 AM

Morales Hoffman, Megan	Pembroke, NH mmorales517@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 9:58 AM
Mason, Angela	Concord, NH acmbogue@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:03 AM
Coleman, Matt	Deerfield, NH matt.k.coleman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:05 AM
Ferguson, Alicia	Dublin, NH fergusonalicia@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:05 AM
Gutterman, Gail	Sunapee, NH gutsea@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:07 AM
Ott, Keith	Claremont, NH ottkeith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:12 AM
Stallings, Alison	Chester, NH stallings44@comcast.net	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:12 AM
Blount, Jaime	Derry, NH Jaimeshayne1923@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:18 AM
Paul, Emily	Manchester, NH em3211j@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:23 AM
Paul, Alexander	Manchester, NH Ajpaul.nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:24 AM
Johnson, Janis	Manchester, NH Janisj320@aol.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:25 AM
Jankowski, Stanley	Laconia, NH jankowski.tony@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:26 AM
Rene, Ronald	Manchester, NH rarene1964@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Oppose	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:50 AM
Korfiatis, Maria	Ashuelot, NH korfi309@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:51 AM
Bartlett Mullahy, Aimee	Antrim, NH amully333@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:52 AM
Daves, Amber	Manchester, NH amberdaves08@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:58 AM
Dearborn, Cassie	Barrington, NH coolcass13@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 10:58 AM
Fain, Olga	Nashua, NH fain.olga@gmail.com	A Member of the Public Myself	Support	No N	o 2/3/2022 11:02 AM

Gericke, Carla	Manchester, NH carlagericke@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:05 AM
Dearborn, Jonathan	Barrington, NH grimfang4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:18 AM
Stottlar, Elaine	Northwood, NH Elainestottlar@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:30 AM
Sanguedokce, Aliyah	Center Barnstead, NH a.sanguedolce21@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:32 AM
Dozois, Cheryl	Raymond, NH chetmi8@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:50 AM
Wikstrom, Kathleen	Exeter, NH kjwikstrom@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 1:18 PM
Estevez, Rachel	Pelham, NH racheljestevez@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:05 PM
Schuck, Tammy	Salisbury, NH tammyschuck@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 2:56 PM
W, Daniele	Union, NH Danielebardsley@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 3:32 PM
McHugh, Gregory	Deerfield, NH Mcgreg415@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/3/2022 3:43 PM
Keeler, Margaret	New London, NH peg5keeler@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/3/2022 3:51 PM
Lepine, Karen	Nashua, NH Kalyshaw@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 4:52 PM
Lepine, Keith	Nashua, NH Keith_lepine@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 4:53 PM
Magoon, Heather	Manchester, NH mh_nicolaides@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 4:55 PM
Nicolaides, Martin	Manchester, NH martinnicolaides@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 4:58 PM
Thompson, Christine	Manchester, NH c36@tutanota.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 5:08 PM
Groen, Rep Fenton	Rochester, NH fentongroen@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 5:40 PM
Groen, Shirley`	Rochester, NH shirleykg9@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 6:34 PM

Gildersleeve, Darlene	HOPKINTON, NH dmcote88@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 7:12 PM
	Stark, NH jaywrobertson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 7:35 PM
	Rochester, NH patrickwright22@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 9:42 PM
Reddic, Luby	Laconia, NH lreddic21@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 10:40 PM
	Andover, NH jlmcneel@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:26 PM
	AUBURN, NH mlevell@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2022 11:52 PM
	Bedford, NH smcginley@nhcornerstone.org.	A Lobbyist	Cornerstone Action	Neutral	No	No	2/4/2022 7:24 AM

Archived: Friday, February 4, 2022 12:02:40 PM From: Jody Underwood Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:07:58 PM To: ~House Education Committee Cc: Michelle Levell Subject: Model Policy for Homeschooling Importance: Normal

Dear Education Committee Members,

Michelle Levell reminded me that the School District Governance Association of NH approved a model policy for homeschoolers a year ago, which includes the equal access that was discussed today at the HB1663 committee hearing.

Please find it here: <u>https://sdganh.org/wp-</u> content/uploads/2020/12/policy\_ihbg\_home\_schooling.pdf

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Jody Underwood Croydon Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:29 AM From: Danielle Snow Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 9:10:46 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Support HB 1663 Importance: Normal

Sent from my iPhone

Attn: House Education Committee:

I am asking for you to pass House Bill 1663 as introduced.

Having homeschooled in this state since 1991, I began my journey on the coattails of the recently adopted RSA 193:A. Since then, I have seen several positive changes to the homeschooling law. I have also witnessed the tremendous growth of homeschooling families in New Hampshire. Thousands of dedicated parents over the past 30 years have enjoyed the freedom to educate their children, yet it is time to refine and clarify the finer points that have also caused interpretive angst over the years.

In particular line 5 should be edited to say, *"The local school board shall adopt a policy regulating participation in curricular courses and cocurricular programs, provided that such policy shall not be more restrictive for non-public, public chartered school, or home educated pupils than the policy governing the school district's resident pupils."* In our early years of homeschooling, my daughters would have loved to participate in certain activities, but because permission was dependent on the school district's discretion, they were unable to participate. They learned that friends living in another district could participate in school activities and it seemed unfair. While they sought other avenues that certainly prepared them for their current careers, it would have been helpful for them to have had equal access to the various programs that our tax dollars funded.

Line 18 needs to be amended. *Home education shall be provided, coordinated, or directed by a parent for his or her own child.* I know of several instances where a parent has suddenly found themselves alone and desperately wanted to continue homeschooling their children. However, because of work schedules and trying to make ends meet, they could not provide direct instruction. They longed for an option where a family member or friend could regularly teach the curriculum deemed best for their child. In other words, they wanted to educate at home with a curriculum that effectively complements their child's learning style. These parents desire to provide the best education for their child, but sometimes they cannot be the particular provider. This amendment would greatly benefit children of single parents.

Finally, I would like to address lines 13-18 of this bill which would strike "the Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests (or such state test) shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency. It has been proven that homeschooled children generally do score higher on standardized tests. Please review the statements from Dr. Brian Ray from his comprehensive research on home educated students. <u>https://www.nheri.org/research-facts-on-homeschooling/</u> However, not **all** children do well on standardized tests. And since the pandemic, this has become even worse. According to the Concord Monitor article published October 30, 2021 <u>https://www.concordmonitor.com/State-education-assessment-data-released-43244042</u> Concord has seen a dramatic decline in math and reading proficiency among students district-wide since the 2018-2019 school year, when testing was last conducted. In Concord the number of students ranked proficient or above dropped from 47% in spring 2019 to **27%** in spring 2021. For reading scores, the number of students proficient and above decreased

from 60% in spring 2019 to 47% in spring 2021. The number of Concord students proficient and above in science dropped from 41% to **34%**. Please read the entire article to see even lower test results in Manchester and Nashua. Students whose test scores dropped below the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile are not placed on probation, and their education is not questioned. This amendment makes it fair for all children. They have the option to be assessed through standardized testing, but they are treated just the same as other students who did not test well. This also pertains to lines 22-24 with the inclusion of section (e) *All children, but especially with those with a disability shall be evaluated with the disability in mind and shall not be subject to more restrictive evaluation criteria in the home education setting than a child with a similar disability in a traditional school setting appropriate to such disability.* Evaluative accommodations for disabled students are routinely made in a traditional setting. This bill makes it applicable to all students.

Most of these amendments have the same goal – equality. They purpose to have the same standards applied to home educated students as they are to traditional students in the key areas of access and assessment. In regard to the definition of Home Education, consider the current conundrum of virtual classes, quarantines, and disrupted schedules. Giving parents the autonomy to coordinate or direct their child's education at home will help these children succeed despite the obstacles they have encountered in this current pandemic. I urge you to support HB 1663.

Thank you,

Maria Chamberlain Milan, NH HB 1663 Home Education Bill 2022 Testimony to the Ed Committee

My name is Jody Underwood. I am Chair of the Croydon School Board. I am on the board of the School District Governance Association. I have a Ph.D. in Education. I have been a school choice advocate in New Hampshire for many years.

Although I support all the proposed changes and encourage you to vote OTP on HB1663, there are some important ways in which this bill doesn't go far enough.

Although the parents of ALL students pay taxes to support the schools of the districts in which they live, homeschooled and non-public-school students are often treated differently in terms of access to curricular and extra-curricular programs offered at district schools. There are a few reasons for this.

First, it's currently too easy for school boards to lose track of what they're supposed to provide to homeschool students and other non-public-school students. I've been on the Croydon school board since 2010, and I'm only now realizing that I didn't know exactly what districts are supposed to provide to these students. School boards are required to create policies for different issues, which forces them to become aware of these issues. One of the required policies should ensure equal access to programs to ALL students living in their districts, not just those students who attend district schools.

Second, it's current practice in many districts to exclude homeschool and non-publicschool students from participating in programs if they have failed to meet arbitrary academic standards, while not excluding public-school students who fail to meet those same standards. If a minimum standard is required for ANY students living in the district, it must be required for ALL students. There are two ways this might be accomplished. One would be to simply remove the minimum standards, and let all students participate in everything. Another would be to keep the minimum standards, and use them to exclude any students who fail to meet them — including students who happen to be attending the schools where the programs are offered.

Third, one of the RSAs that is being amended by this bill is RSA 193-A:6 II, which says that parents need to evaluate their homeschooled students annually, and then says what it means for an evaluation to be successful. HB1663 proposes to delete the statement that implies that homeschooled students must perform at the fortieth percentile:

"... Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency"

However, note that the RSA does not specify any consequences if homeschooled students don't reach the fortieth percentile. That is, it's not so much a 'statute' as a 'definition'. While deleting that statement would be a fine step, it would be simpler and

more sensible to simply remove the reporting requirement completely. Arguing over how to change a rule that has no consequences for being broken is pointless and a waste of time.

But if the definition is to remain in place, it provides an interesting opportunity to address another source of unequal treatment. That is, if the implication is that a homeschooled student who is underperforming should be removed from the homeschool environment, then the same should be true for a public-school student who is underperforming — that student should be removed from the public school that he's currently attending. If we're going to have consequences for failure to meet some minimum standard, then they should apply to everyone, or to no one.

Again, please vote OTP on HB1663, and consider making the changes even broader. Thank you for your attention.

Jody S. Underwood, Ph.D. Croydon, NH Chair, Croydon School Board Board member, School District Governance Association I would like to see New Hampshire's Home Education law improved. HB 1663 as currently written is intended to make helpful changes but has problems with references and wording that could create unnecessary confusion. With Representative Layon's Amendment, I would support the Bill. Rep. Layon's amended version of the bill makes helpful changes that would make our state a better place to homeschool! Please accept Rep. Layon's amendment and send the amended bill to the house OTP!

To the House Education Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. My name is Leah Gavin. I am a mother of three children, unique children, who require different styles of education. They learn differently. I believe this variety, this uniqueness, is a beautiful thing. Not just in my home. It can be seen across the state of New Hampshire.

I believe it to be the right of the parents to choose how they want to educate their children, whether it be by school, home school, or a combination of both. Without the freedom of access to different kinds of education, we would lose that uniqueness. I support the language change of HB1663 from "may" to "shall" because it ensures that children like mine across the state will have the freedom to the type of education that fits their learning style. HB1663 ultimately will allow children to flourish in their own unique and wonderful way.

Respectfully,

Leah Gavin

# HSLDA

#### **Home School Legal Defense Association**

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	Tom Sanders, Esq. TX

# Making Helpful Changes to New Hampshire's Homeschool Law

To: New Hampshire General Court Education Committee

From: HSLDA Senior Counsel Michael Donnelly

Good morning my name is Michael Donnelly, and I am Senior Counsel and Director of Global Outreach for the Homeschool Legal Defense Association. I am a graduate of the Boston University School of Law and hold an LLM from the London School of Economics in comparative constitutional and human rights law. I am admitted to the bars of New Hampshire, Massachusetts, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. I hold two Adjunct Professorships - one at Patrick Henry College where I teach Constitutional Law and another at Regent Law School where I teach International Criminal and Human Rights Law. I have published numerous articles in peer reviewed journals about homeschooling. I grew up in Grafton and I continue to be a NH taxpayer and own the historic story homestead in Enfield, a 230 plus year old farmhouse built by revolutionary war soldier John Story.

HSLDA is a global advocacy organization with over 107,000 member families, with nearly 1,000 families in the Granite State. I appear today on their behalf and for thousands of other like-minded homeschooling families. For them and for me, I would like to thank you for your service in the third largest representative body in the world. As a global advocate for homeschooling, I go to many capitals, and I know that there is no other state that asks so much effort from so many legislators for so little. You are all truly citizen statesman and are to be commended for your service. *Testimony relating to HB 1663* February 3, 2022 Page 2 of 3

I am here today to ask you to pass Representative Layon's proposed amendment to HB 1663. With these changes HSLDA would support the bill.

US Census bureau research indicates that the number of homeschooling families in the United States (and NH) has doubled or tripled. Because of the impact of the pandemic millions more families have found the freedom, flexibility and focus that homeschooling allows. With homeschooling parents can tailor an educational experience for each child to meet their specific and individual needs.

By clarifying certain provisions of the law and making other amendments, HB 1663 as amended, by Rep Layon's amendment, would help new homeschooling families adapt to their new chosen form of education, assist current homeschooling families, and ease the burden of administration on some public officials.

With Rep. Layon's amendment the law would recognize a common practice where homeschooling parents include other families in the educational experience. While we would argue that the law permits this, the new language "coordinated and directed" in addition to the word "provided" already in statute, makes it crystal clear to NEW families who are encountering the law and may not be as connected to others who have a longer and historical perspective, that homeschooling can be more than just you and your child only and always in your home.

The bill further clarifies that homeschoolers who notify their public school district instead of the commissioner or a private school must notify the public school if they move. The bill would reduce the administrative overhead on the department of education because fewer homeschoolers would be sending letters to the commissioner in addition to their school of notice as the law currently requires.

Because homeschool parents are constantly evaluating their children and are aware of how they are progressing through the chosen curriculum, a 40-percentile score as a measure of reasonable academic proficiency was never reasonable. Removing this arbitrary numerical standard and empowering parents to use a standardized test to assess their children's results and to determine based on the child's abilities whether reasonable academic proficiency has been attained is a good idea. *Testimony relating to HB 1663* February 3, 2022 Page 3 of 3

By way of comparison the few other states that have such standards include Colorado's which sets the  $13^{th}$  percentile (one standard deviations from the average range which is from the  $25^{th}$  to  $75^{th}$  percentile roughly. Ohio sets the standard at the  $25^{th}$  percentile which is the lowest end of the average range. West Virginia recently made a change from the  $40^{th}$  percentile to the  $4^{th}$  stanine – which is equivalent to 25% or higher. But since most states do not require any score, New Hampshire would be joining the majority of states to acknowledge that an arbitrary number on a standardized test is not the best way to assess reasonable academic proficiency.

By inserting the word disability in assessment of a child's academic proficiency, the proposal recognizes that children with special needs should have those needs and challenges to their ability to make progress academically into consideration whenever an assessment is conducted.

HSLDA has long supported the removal of rulemaking authority for home education. We have long believed that NHs law is sufficiently clear that no rulemaking was required to clarify any aspects of it. As you know, the rule making process is tedious, time consuming and fertile for the creation of problems. Citizens should be governed by laws – not the rules of administrative agencies. If the rules were ever needed because of complexity in the law, they certainly are not needed now.

Thank you for your kind attention I would be pleased to answer any questions you have, and I would respectfully ask that you adopt representative' Layon's amendment and then recommend that this bill ought to pass as so amended.

Respectfully Submitted this 3d Day of February 2022,

Mil P.Dy

HSLDA Senior Counsel

#### Hello,

My name is Teresa Chylinski and I have been a resident of Londonderry NH for just shy of 20 years. I have homeschooled at least one of my three children over the past 5 years while one has always happily & successfully remained in public school. During this time I have heard unsubstantiated comments about a parent's inability to educate their child or that homeschooling is used to cover abuse in one ear while hearing that parents who send their children to public schools are sending them into a conformist, limited, bullying/abusive, and obsolete system in the other. Both sides are sometimes right and often wrong, but I share will share snapshots of our family story to illustrate that while I support school choice, I am also a strong supporter of our public schools and this is one of the reasons I don't vote a "straight ticket." In a climate where everyone is saying they "support the children" while sometimes blindly backing themselves further into their own political corners, I implore you to think past partisan politics and consider what might be right for some students, even if it doesn't fit your party's agenda. All of that being said, I am writing this in support of HB 1663.

While I always theoretically supported this bill, I was not motivated to actively support it because we live in an amazing district in terms of equal access, reporting, etc... Furthermore, we've been blessed with children who, despite the occasional hardships thrown their way, have been able to perform and evaluate relatively well. The first instance that inspired me to reach out was a comment from our eldest, who we unenrolled during middle school (age 11). For context, she's an overachiever (you know, the mostly homeschooled kid who got 4s & 5s of AP exams like AP Bio and Lang, and As in her dual enrollment courses when she was 14, has PSAT scores in the high 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, is still acing her dual enrollment courses as well as her "equal access" courses, including AP Physics, at the local high school as a 15yo today, but whose parents can't be trusted to homeschool). We were blessed because she was able to easily customize her education and use the Equal Access law to take some courses over the years and access sports and clubs. Because of Equal Access, she has made great connections, both with peers and educators and I hope they have also benefitted from knowing her. As a junior, our district has a pathway for her to go back to school full time to allow her to graduate through the district and with her class. She chose not to re-enroll, valuing her autonomy over graduating with friends. I've often questioned her choice until she recently thanked me and made the comment that brings me here today. She thanked me for being "that parent" because "most parents would not have listened or had the guts to go against what's "normal" to do what you did for me and I might not be here if it weren't for you" (referencing a recent suicide in our community). I might have been "that parent" who pulled her out of a situation which was not a good fit, but Equal Access allowed her to make those social and academic connections she wanted to make. Please ensure other students who are unenrolled are guaranteed the opportunity to take part of the amazing educational, social, emotional, and enjoyable opportunities our public schools offer if they so choose. If nothing else, support this bill to ENSURE our children can access the portions of public education that work for them – you never know when it will be your child, relative, grandchild, etc... whose life and/or education it saves/enriches.

Another part of our family's homeschooling experience was when our middle child, Donovan, unenrolled/homeschooled in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The school was amazing in that I met with our principal and we arranged it so our son would be assigned to a class and come in for specials: music, PE, art, library as well as field trips, science fairs, etc... This Equal Access opportunity made Donovan realize he loved his teacher so much that when he found out his class was looping as he could as well, he chose to re-enroll the next year. I loved the connection as well & asked the teacher to review our son's portfolio. It was a

win-win as the teacher knew Donovan from interacting with him daily, knew he was getting his specials covered at school, then knew what we had covered during the year before our son re-enrolled with him as the teacher the following year. Equal Access may be a way to allow more students to keep one foot in the door of their public school, thereby increasing the chances of them returning.

From a financial perspective, UNFUNDED homeschooled students do not take away any local money from the school (local tax money is the bulk of what funds schools), plus when a student like Katia accesses courses or co-curriculars through Equal Access, the state reimburses the district for the portion she is accessing (RSA 198:38). Allowing unenrolled students like Katia access to classes and co-curriculars brings more money in.

If you believe public schools are better equipped at teaching – demand Equal Access to better educate our youth, even for one class.

If you believe some homeschooled children are abused – ensure Equal Access for increased transparency to report it.

If you are worried your district will lose funding because a high schooler chooses to homeschool – demand Equal Access to get some of the funds back.

If you are against demanding Equal Access for all our students, please ask yourself why, and if you truly believe public schools are best, why would you deprive an unfunded homeschooled child the class/club/sport?

The other portion of this bill I strongly support is the removal of the academic performance threshold for homeschoolers. I'm fortunate that Katia is an excellent student, but what if she weren't? She was unenrolled for social/emotional/mental reasons. What if she was not able to meet the 40% proficiency requirement of homeschooled students but her mental health was such that going back to school might make her "not here?" Would putting her back in school be the answer when school was (at least in her mind) the problem? What if Donovan was not able to meet this arbitrary threshold when he was homeschooled while his father was battling cancer? What of students who are not neurotypical or have a disability whose parents unenrolled them because they could support them more yet they don't meet the 40% cut-off (especially when they likely wouldn't have met that threshold while in public school)? This might be reasonable IF public schools had the same requirement, but they don't. Public schooled students are not required to meet any academic threshold, while homeschoolers are the only ones who are held to any standard. For further context, in my town of Londonderry, 58% of our town is proficient in ELA, 42% in math, and 29% in science (Workbook: iReport (nh.gov)). In the state, I believe it was 52% proficient in reading, 38% in math, and 37% in science (NH assessment results align with nationwide trends | Department of Education). Given these data, many are below an overall threshold of 40% yet they move on to the next grade. I ask that you please consider giving homeschoolers the same rights.

Thank you for your consideration,

Teresa Chylinski

Dear Committee members and concerned citizens,

Would you believe that the last major innovation in education was the Montessori Method? That the adults in pursuit of better or larger budgets over the years have lost sight of the community building that is possible when all adults are considered potential educators.

I write to you from Claremont which has known nearly all of the challenges of running a school system. Our schools serve half or more of students recovering from or still enduring trauma. Over the decades we continue to need ever more social workers and para educators to service graduates from the very system built to prepare adults for the world.

I do not ask that this system be defunded or attacked in any way. Public schools are integral to communities and will be necessary far into the future. But providing those that are able a space to operate and experiment responsibly with the education of their children may reduce the burden and enhance the networks that serve both the students each year and their community.

Thanks for your time,

Keith Ott Claremont NH Homeowner 207-619-3365 Hello, my name is Alison Stallings of Chester, NH. I have been homeschooling my daughter for the past 4 years since 7th grade. I am writing to ask you to support HB1663, a bill relative to the home education requirement. I support this bill because homeschoolers should not be held to a higher standard than other students. It's also important to provide specific protection for children with special ed differences. I also believe all home educated children should have equal access to their local school's activity, classes, sports, and clubs. Thank you for your time and consideration.

February 3, 2022

To: House Education Committee

From: Michelle Levell, Granite State Home Educators

Re: HB 1663 relative to requirements for home education students

Dear Honorable members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Michelle Levell and I am the director and a co-founder of Granite State Home Educators. GSHE is an all-volunteer 501c4 non-profit. We have approximately 6,000 members around the state and nine social media accounts with over 14,000 participants.

GSHE supports HB 1663 because it addresses important aspects of home education statute; it resolves some "housekeeping" inconsistencies and gives parity to homeschoolers relative to students in other educational programs. This bill impacts unfunded homeschooled students that follow RSA 193-A, not those participating in the Education Freedom Account program that are governed by RSA 194-F, to make the distinction clear.

There are five parts to HB 1663.

#### Part 1 requires school boards to adopt an Equal Access policy.

The current statute says school boards may adopt an Equal Access policy. HB 1663 changes "may" to "shall." This is a simple change that ensures taxpaying homeschooling families have access to curricular and cocurricular programs at their local schools.

Families pay local taxes that go to their district schools whether or not they enroll their children. In fact, unfunded homeschoolers are a tax savings to their local districts and the state. According to research using the US census, estimated homeschool numbers, and the average cost per public-school pupil as of 2017, homeschooled children represent a savings of \$80.7 million dollars to New Hampshire. By comparison, the average cost per public-school pupil is over \$18,000 according to the NH Department of Education's latest data.

I recently completed research to examine districts' home education policies using a sampling of 100 SAUs across New Hampshire. Of these 100 SAUs, 36 do not have an Equal Access policy as written in <u>RSA 193:1-c</u>. Failing to have an Equal Access policy denies taxpaying families the option to participate in programs that they subsidize.

If resident students participate in classes or activities at their local district high schools, SAUs are compensated per <u>RSA 198:38</u>. Changing "may" to "shall" does not represent an additional cost to districts.

Families simply want the opportunity to participate in programs at their local schools that they already financially support.

#### Part 2 removes language that could imply home education needs approval by a participating agency.

New Hampshire state and local education institutions are not accountable for homeschooled students' academic outcomes, progress, advancement, or graduation. They do not approve, authorize, or supervise home education programs and are not liable for these students' outcomes or achievements.

The simple change in HB 1663 clarifies that home education is "provided, coordinated, or directed" by families, not these educational institutions, for homeschooled students' learning. This new language makes it clear that the responsibility lies with families.

As I researched NH district policies, I found some that expressly say homeschooling families need to consult with their local SAU to use other educational providers. This is exactly why "coordinated or directed" must be added to the definition of home education.

#### Part 3 eliminates inconsistencies regarding who to notify and when.

Currently the initial and termination notifications have inconsistent requirements in <u>RSA 193-A</u>. Upon beginning a home ed program, families are given three options: they may inform their local SAU office, a private school that offers participating agency services, or the NH Department of Education. This is in RSA 193-A:5, I. However, upon terminating their home ed program, they are required to inform the NH Department of Education and their local SAU or the private school that they used as their participating agency, according to RSA 193-A:5, III. The proposed change keeps the notification options consistent and protects student privacy.

# Part 4 removes unequitable academic achievement thresholds and provides protections for home-educated students with special education differences.

Currently, unfunded homeschooled students are the only educational pathway that has individual student academic achievement requirements written into state law. The current home-education statute says a child must show "progress commensurate with age and ability." It further states that if the family uses a standardized test for the annual assessment, that the child must achieve a composite score at or above the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile to demonstrate academic proficiency. Achievement at or above the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile means that 39% of students fail automatically. This standard is unique to unfunded home-educated children.

By comparison, Prenda students, who are enrolled in the Recovering Bright Futures program and funded by a \$6 million federal grant, <u>may opt-out of the statewide assessment</u> like their public-school peers and have no academic achievement standard. <u>Funded Education Freedom Account students</u> have no performance requirement, yet have an average of \$4,500 state adequacy money follow the child. Students participating in <u>town-tuitioning programs</u> also have no academic achievement requirement in statute and have local tax money follow them to an out-of-district or private school. <u>Students in public schools cost an average of \$18,000</u>, yet do not have individual academic achievement requirements in statute.

Just like other states, New Hampshire's public schools struggled with learning loss in 2020 due to the pandemic. However, the statewide achievement scores indicate generally low proficiency across all three subject areas before Covid was a factor. According to state statute <u>RSA 193-H:2</u>, public-school districts were required to have "all pupils at the proficient level or above on the statewide assessment by the 2018-19 school year." That benchmark was not achieved.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
ELA	52%	Covid	56%	58%	59%	61%
Math	38%	Covid	48%	48%	49%	49%
Science	37%	Covid	39%	41%	36%	35%

The statewide assessment proficiency scores for the past six years are below.

In addition, public-school students may opt-out of the statewide assessment per <u>RSA 193-C:6</u>; home-educated students are required to do some kind of annual assessment and do not have an opt-out choice.

The academic achievement on a standardized test of the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile or above is an unequitable requirement, particularly given that home-educated students do not receive federal, state, or local dollars.

HB 1663 also seeks to protect homeschooled students who have special-education challenges. They are a fastgrowing segment of the homeschool community and they need clear protection stated in the law. The current statute says "progress commensurate with age and ability." HB 1663 provides language that acknowledges and protects those students who have disabilities by explicitly taking their differences into consideration for their annual assessments.

Note that the proposed changes to RSA 193-A:6 do not remove the annual assessment requirement; homeeducated students are still required to administer some type of assessment and the options remain the same -a standardized test, an evaluation by an education professional who either has certification or is currently teaching in one of NH's private schools, or another agreed upon method. These are not altered in HB 1663.

#### Part 5 adds placement parity when enrolling in public schools.

More and more families have experimented with home education these past two years during Covid. They are temporarily, or short-term, homeschooling their children and waiting for their local schools to return to "normal." However, many have met great resistance when trying to re-enroll, even after being withdrawn only a few months.

Local public schools have great discretion whether or not they will honor any credits or achievements these "crisis homeschoolers" attain during their brief time away from their home district schools. This is happening for students even in third and fourth grade, not only those at the high-school level.

Over the past 12 years, I have counseled countless families who homeschooled multiple years who wished to enroll in their local public schools. Many were denied most of the academic attainments they achieved during their homeschool years, even with accredited programs. Demonstration of mastery through placement tests are often denied.

All we seek is parity; that these homeschooled students are judged on the same basis as other incoming students. We aren't asking for favors or special considerations. These students deserve to be considered without discrimination.

In closing, please support thousands of unfunded home-educated students and pass HB 1663. Homeschoolers are not asking for funding, services, or special favors. We simply want some important details cleaned up in the statute, privacy, explicit protection for our special ed children, and a level playing field.

Please give HB 1663 an Ought to Pass vote.

To House of Education Committee,

I am asking you to pass House Bill 1663 as it has been introduced.

I am here to discuss the matter as a concerned parent/taxpayer.

First off, I am a parent of 3 children who went through mental, physical, emotional struggles thru out there time in the Laconia Schools these struggles include not providing essential tools needed for learning at school ie special chair, desk, computer, ect following IEPs, lack of communication with teachers, principle, Superintendent when issues arise. Some would think these would be simple to take care of but not at Laconia Schools. My children particularly my son where they felt he was asleep for an hour in class before trying to wake him knowing he has health issues and Never followed 504 plan protocols.

This matter could have caused significant medical harm.

Here are just a few things:

Safety: My children expressed that they don't feel safe at school/bus

\*my son is High risk for Covid as he has an autoimmune disease.

The Superintendent and principle of my Childrens school direly wanted all 3 kids to return to in person learning because THEY felt it was a safe place to be. Although it wasn't as we had many cases throughout the schools an community. How do you say this is a safe place for kids with autoimmune disease?

Communication:

I emailed the Administration my request to withdraw my kids from the school district. I got an email 3 days later.

These issues along with many others is the reason why I turned to Homeschooling.

Vickie Micheli

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:30 AM From: wm Langellotti Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 8:13:46 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Feb 3 HBs Education Committee Importance: Normal

FEB 3

Thank you for considering our opinions as below, regarding:

HB 1664-FN, requiring certain non-public schools or education service providers that accept public funds to perform background checks on all employees and volunteers. We SUPPORT

HB 1663, relative to requirements for home education students.

(requires home districts to provide access to curricular course and co curricular programs for homeschool, charter,

and non-public school students and other rights for homeschool children) We OPPOSE

HB 1198, relative to rules of the department of education concerning culture and climate in schools. ( eliminates any activities or lessons on inclusion, diversity, or discrimination in public schools) We OPPOSE

HB 1588-FN, relative to students attending public schools that mandate the wearing of face masks without an emergency order in place.( forbids local school districts from requiring masks) We OPPOSE

Catherine Langellotti

William Langellotti

31 Alexandra Lane

Rochester, NH 03867

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:25 AM From: Kay Yeagley Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:48:55 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: February 3 Testimony Importance: Normal

My name is Kay Yeagley and I have been a Georges Mills, NH resident since 1973.

I would like to comment on today's bills that are before your committee.

HB 1664-FN - I am in support of this bill because no person working with children should be exempt from a background check.

HB 1663 - I oppose this bill because it appears that the authors wish to "have it both ways" as the saying goes. A person who chooses to home school or use a private school does so because they don't want the public education.

HB 1198 - I oppose this bill. As a matter of fact, I really had trouble even reading this one. Someone really said this?

HB1588-FN - I oppose this bill because local school districts (and the people who live in that community) should be able to decide about the health and safety of the student population based on current statistics within that community when it comes to face masks.

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:25 AM From: Teresa Chylinski Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 7:51:09 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: HB 1663 - SUPPORT! Importance: Normal

#### Hello,

My name is Teresa Chylinski and I have been a resident of Londonderry NH for just shy of 20 years. I have homeschooled at least one of my three children over the past 5 years while one has always happily & successfully remained in public school. During this time I have heard unsubstantiated comments about a parent's inability to educate their child or that homeschooling is used to cover abuse in one ear while hearing that parents who send their children to public schools are sending them into a conformist, limited, bullying/abusive, and obsolete system in the other. Both sides are sometimes right and often wrong. In this letter I will share snapshots of our family story to illustrate why I support HB 1663. Furthermore, while I support school choice, I am also a strong supporter of our public schools and this is one of the reasons I don't vote a "straight ticket." In a climate where everyone is saying they "support the children" while sometimes blindly backing themselves further into their own political corners, I implore you to think past partisan politics and consider what might be right for some students, even if it doesn't fit your party's agenda.

While I always theoretically supported this bill, I was not motivated to actively support it because we live in an amazing district in terms of equal access, reporting, etc... Furthermore, we've been blessed with children who, despite the occasional hardships thrown their way, have been able to perform and evaluate well. The first instance that inspired me to reach out was a comment from our eldest, who we unenrolled during middle school (age 11). For context, she's an overachiever (you know, the mostly homeschooled kid who got 4s & 5s of AP exams like AP Bio and Lang, and As in her dual enrollment courses when she

was 14, has PSAT scores in the high 90<sup>th</sup> percentile, is still acing her dual enrollment courses as well as her "equal access" courses, including AP Physics, at the local high school as a 15vo today, but whose parents can't be trusted to homeschool). We were blessed because she was able to easily customize her education and use the Equal Access law to take some courses over the years and access sports and clubs. Because of Equal Access, she has made great connections, both with peers and educators and I hope they have also benefitted from knowing her. As a junior, our district has a pathway for her to go back to school full time to allow her to graduate through the district and with her class. She chose not to re-enroll, valuing her autonomy over graduating with friends. I've often questioned her choice until she recently thanked me and made the comment that brings me here today. She thanked me for being "that parent" because "most parents would not have listened or had the guts to go against what's "normal" to do what you did for me and I might not be here if it weren't for you" (referencing a recent suicide in our community). I might have been "that parent" who pulled her out of a situation which was not a good fit, but Equal Access allowed her to make those social and academic connections she wanted to make. Please ensure other students who are unenrolled are guaranteed the opportunity to take part of the amazing educational, social, emotional, and enjoyable opportunities our public schools offer if they so choose. If nothing else, support this bill to ENSURE our children can access the portions of public education that work for them – you never know when it will be your child, relative, grandchild, etc... whose life and/or education it saves/enriches.

Another part of our family's homeschooling experience was when our middle child, Donovan,

unenrolled/homeschooled in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The elementary school was amazing in that I met with our principal and we arranged it so our son would be assigned to a class and come in for specials: music, PE, art, library as well as field trips, science fairs, etc... This Equal Access opportunity made Donovan realize he loved his teacher so much that when he found out this teacher's class was looping and he could as well, he chose to re-enroll the next year. I loved the connection with the teacher & asked him to review our son's portfolio. It was a win-win as the teacher knew Donovan from interacting with him daily, knew he was getting his specials covered at school, then knew what we had covered during the year before our son re-enrolled with him as the teacher the following year. Equal Access may be a way to allow more students to keep one foot in the door of their public school, thereby increasing the chances of them returning.

From a financial perspective, UNFUNDED homeschooled students do not take away any local money from the school (local tax money is the bulk of what funds schools), plus when a student like Katia accesses courses or co-curriculars through Equal Access, the state reimburses the district for the portion she is accessing (RSA 198:38). Allowing unenrolled students like Katia access to classes and co-curriculars brings more money in.

If you believe public schools are better equipped at teaching – demand Equal Access to better educate our youth, even for one class.

If you believe some homeschooled children are abused – ensure Equal Access for increased transparency to report it.

If you are worried your district will lose funding because a high schooler chooses to homeschool – demand Equal Access to get some of the funds back.

If you are against demanding Equal Access for all our students, please ask yourself why, and if you truly believe public schools are best, why would you deprive an unfunded homeschooled child the class/club/sport?

The other portion of this bill I strongly support is the removal of the academic performance threshold for homeschoolers. I'm fortunate that Katia is an excellent student, but what if she weren't? She was unenrolled for social/emotional/mental reasons. What if she was not able to meet the 40% proficiency requirement of homeschooled students but her mental health was such that going back to school might make her "not here?" Would putting her back in school be the answer when school was (at least in her mind) the problem? What if Donovan was not able to meet this arbitrary threshold when he was homeschooled while his father was battling cancer? What of students who are not neurotypical or have a disability whose parents unenrolled them because they could support them more yet they don't meet the 40% cut-off (especially when they likely wouldn't have met that threshold while in public school)? A 40% proficiency requirement might be reasonable IF public schools followed the same standard, but they don't. Public schooled students are not required to meet any academic threshold, while homeschoolers are the only ones who are held to any standard. For further context, in my town of Londonderry, 58% of our town is proficient in ELA, 42% in math, and 29% in science (Workbook: iReport (nh.gov)). In the state, I believe it was 52% proficient in reading, 38% in math, and 37% in science (NH assessment results align with nationwide trends | Department of Education). Given these data, many are below an overall threshold of 40% yet they move on to the next grade. I ask that you please consider giving homeschoolers the same rights.

Thank you for your consideration,

Teresa Chylinski

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:31 AM From: goscorwin@hotmail.com Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 4:42:51 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: HB 1663 Support Importance: Normal

Hello, my name is Sara White. I live in the town of Hillsboro and have 2 children that we home educate.

Please SUPPORT HB 1663, a bill relative to the home education requirement. I support this bill because I believe consistency of who/when to send notification is important for the NH Homeschool community. I also believe it is important to remove the academic performance thresholds which will provide more protection for our special education community. It is imperative we keep reaching for a consistent and clear understanding of school choice in New Hampshire, as well as, protecting the rights of our homeschoolers in NH.

Please consider this email as part of the Bill's record.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sara White

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:47 AM From: Allison Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 1:44:05 PM To: ~House Education Committee Cc: Glenn Cordelli Subject: HB 1663, support Importance: Normal

Hello Representatives from the NH House Education Committee,

As a mother who has just wrapped up homeschooling my children for the past 14 years who is also on the HEAC, I would like to express my support for HB 1663. It is my opinion that clearing up the language in 193 is of vital importance.

### On page 1:

I fully support the change in line 5 from may to shall... " The local school board [may] **shall** adopt a policy regulating participation in curricular courses and.." so there is no confusion that this is optional.

In line 18 - " Home education shall be provided, **coordinated**, **or directed** by a parent for his **or her**" - I specifically support including "her" in the language. (This is also applicable to the change to use more inclusive language on page 2, line 8.)

As to 193 section 3, I fully support clearing up language such that parts I and III align with one another as to who one should notify of the commencement of a homeschooling program and in the event of a termination of a program.

# Page 2:

On lines 14 and 15, relative to achievement tests, I agree with removal of the 40th percentile language. And connected to this improvement, I fully support the addition of point e in regards to annual evaluations (lines 22-25). We must not put any additional burden on homeschooling parents that are not on parents or children in other educational spheres.

In lines 30-34, I am glad to see the committee working toward improvements to assist students who may matriculate into a public school who very regularly face bias and discrimination when being placed into entire grade levels and specific courses. I would prefer this area to be further amended, however, and think we could do better to improve things for a student transitioning from home education to public education.

I thank the committee for HB 1663 and look forward to the possibility of continuing to progress with these important changes to the homeschooling law and would like to see a few further tweaks as you move forward.

Respectfully, Allison O'Neil Hampton, NH I am a stay at home mom of two wonderful little boys, one of which has autism and was getting almost no help with his educational, emotional, and social needs at our local school district. The best place for my child to be educated right now is at home where I can meet all of his needs and where he isn't subject to testing intended for children that do not have the special needs that he does.

I fully support Bill HB1663. Thank you for your time. Crystal Clock 158 Chester Rd Candia, NH 03034 cclock44@gmail.com Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:33 AM From: Lauren Lawless Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 5:46:07 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: HB 1663 Importance: Normal

Dear House Education Committee Members:

Nearing the end of my family's 9th year of homeschooling, I've decided to take a moment and weigh in on HB 1663.

In particular and in reference to Equal Access...

In my hometown of Hooksett, my son has enjoyed attending dances (pre-Covid) and playing on the golf team at the local middle school. Actually, he was one of the better, if not the best, golfer on the team. It was a wonderful experience for him and his participation was beneficial to the entire golf team. He had friends he met through the town's flag football team who were always happy to see him at the school dances. The Principal, and the rest of the staff at Cawley Middle School, always made my son feel welcome. And why should they not? Why should he not be able to enjoy these events? After all, we live in Hooksett and pay a substantial amount in taxes which contribute to the funding of the town's public schools. He, as well as any other homeschooler in town, should have access to the publicly funded school system. Property taxes also help support other public buildings in towns, such as libraries, which are open to all. There should be no difference in access; publicly funded should equate to publicly available.

Clearly, my complaint is certainly not about Hooksett but rather I am using our experience as an example of Equal Access executed correctly and fairly. At the same time, I am voicing a complaint, and concern, about numerous other cities and towns throughout NH that have downright prevented homeschool children from utilizing the local schools or have made the process so difficult that families have walked away.

I support and respectively request you make certain of a necessary change in language, as outlined in HB 1663. In reference to Equal Access Statute RSA 193:1-c "The local school board **may** adopt a policy regulating participation in curricular courses and co-curricular courses..." By implementing a change in verbiage, by replacing the word **"May"** to **"Shall"**, the obscure wording would then be clearly defined. This change would remove any confusion or the possibility of arbitrary decisions.

I fully support all components of HB 1663 which will make homeschooling statutes more consistent, clear, and will provide parity for homeschool families.

I thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lauren Lawless

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:44 AM From: Jesse Medeiros Sent: Sunday, January 30, 2022 9:22:04 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: HB1663 Importance: Normal

Hello Committee members,

I support HB1663 and believe you should as well. It is the right of parents to plan and implement the educational path that best fits their children. The path should be able to be free from government schools, or including parts of it as parents see fit, since as taxpayers most parents fund at least in part the government schools. Best, Jesse.

Jesse Medeiros bgtrck458@gmail.com 603-969-6302 Call, Text, or Email, Thanks! Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:29 AM From: The Day Family Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 8:56:37 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: House Bill 1663 Importance: Normal

Please support House Bill 1663 for New Hampshire's homeschool students.

I would like to see New Hampshire's Home Education law improved. HB 1663 as currently written is intended to make helpful changes but has problems with references and wording that could create unnecessary confusion. With Representative Layon's Amendment, I would support the Bill. Rep. Layon's amended version of the bill makes helpful changes that would make our state a better place to homeschool! Please accept Rep. Layon's amendment and send the amended bill to the house OTP!

Rebecca Day 5 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Nashua, NH 03060 Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:47 AM From: Becky Anderson Sent: Saturday, January 29, 2022 2:11:48 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: In Support of HB 1663 Importance: Normal

Hi,

My name is Rebecca Anderson and I homeschool my three children in Dover, NH. Please SUPPORT HB 1663, a bill relative to the home education requirement. This bill is important to homeschoolers in our state for a few reasons.

This bill guarantees that homeschoolers can participate in their public school's curricular and cocurricular offerings without discrimination. My children could be in a theater production, go to chess club, or play on a sports team that we pay for with our city taxes.

The bill also eliminates academic thresholds for standardized testing requirements for homeschoolers. Currently homeschoolers are held to an arbitrary 40% proficiency standard, which does not apply to public or private school students. Many of us have chosen to homeschool so we can guide students with learning differences to help them reach their full potential, when they would likely fall behind in a classroom. That individualized attention means that we are able to let these children learn at their own pace. This bill's language explicitly protects children with learning disabilities and removes the 40% language for all students.

This bill will directly improve the lives of many homeschooling families in New Hampshire. Please do support 1663. I would like my testimony included in the bill's public record.

Thank you for your time, Rebecca Anderson Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:31 AM From: Karen Shaw Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 3:51:29 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: please SUPPORT HB 1663 - Home Ed requirements Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

My name is Karen Lepine. I live in Nashua and have 2 children that we home educate. Please SUPPORT HB 1663. As an unfunded homeschooler, I wholeheartedly support bill HB 1663. My child with special needs is currently being held to a higher achievement standard than any other educational option. She attended our local public school in first grade and despite being evaluated, fell short of recommendations for an IEP. She was placed on a 504 which did not meet her needs. She was evaluated a second time through a different district due to being moved to a private school where she was identified with having a severe math learning disability. Despite this information, our current public school didn't have much to offer for support services. We brought her home to homeschool and she has made tremendous gains with the one-to-one individualized unfunded homeschool environment. Still, she is being held to a much higher standard of achievement than if she went to any other educational option. Supporting bill HB 1663 will remove the academic performance thresholds and will provide protections for my child with special educational differences.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please add this to the bill's public record.

Sincerely, Karen Lepine Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:29 AM From: Clint & Jen Mercer Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 7:31:30 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Please SUPPORT Rep. Layon's Amendment to HB 1663 and Then Pass It Importance: Normal

Good morning, Committee,

I'm offering the following testimony in support of HB 1663 with Representative Layon's amendment.

We pulled our kids from public school in December 2015, when they were in grades 2nd, 4th, and 6th, to homeschool as my husband and I deemed the local public education they were receiving was not adequately teaching them. In addition, the local school board and SAU didn't seem to care about our concerns when we and multiple other parents spoke up about this lack of education. Homeschooling has been a blessing for our family and our kids have thrived. New Hampshire has been an awesome state to homeschool in!

I do believe that New Hampshire's Home Education law could be improved. HB 1663, as currently written, is intended to make helpful changes but has problems with references and wording that could create unnecessary confusion. Representative Layon is proposing an amended version of the bill that makes helpful changes which would make our state an even better place to homeschool! With Representative Layon's amendment, I would support this bill. Please accept Rep. Layon's amendment and send the amended bill to the house OTP!

Thank you and have a great day! Jen Mercer Loudon, NH February 1, 2022 *Via email only* 

Rick Ladd, Chair NH House Education Committee Legislative Office Building Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 1663 Relative to requirements for home education students.

Dear Representative Ladd and members of the House Education Committee:

Please pass HB 1663 regarding home education requirements.

This bill addresses reasonable changes to make the home ed statute more consistent, provides explicit protection for children with special education differences, and removes the unequitable academic achievement requirements that are placed on unfunded homeschoolers that are not mandated for other funded students.

As an advocate for children with special needs, I support this bill.

Sincerely, Tracy Walbridge Rochester, NH Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:30 AM From: Shayla Anderson Sent: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 8:34:31 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Support Layon Amendment to HB 1663 and Then Pass it Please Importance: Normal

As a New Hampshire parent, I would like to see New Hampshire's Home Education law improved. HB 1663 as currently written is intended to make helpful changes but has problems with references and wording that could create unnecessary confusion. With Representative Layon's Amendment, I would support the Bill. Rep. Layon's amended version of the bill makes helpful changes that would make our state a better place to homeschool! This amendment provides clarifications that would make the important relationship and communication between home educators and local school districts more functional and easier to navigate for all involved. Please accept Rep. Layon's amendment and send the amended bill to the house OTP!

Thank you for your time, Shayla Anderson Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:29 AM From: sully@gsinet.net Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 8:23:18 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Support Layon Amendment to HB 1663 and Then Pass it Please Importance: Normal

Dear House Education Committee,

I am a veteran homeschooler and a teacher. I have worked in education for the last 20 years. I would like to see New Hampshire's Home Education law improved. HB 1663 as currently written is intended to make helpful changes but has problems with references and wording that could create unnecessary confusion. With Representative Layon's Amendment, I would support the Bill. Rep. Layon's amended version of the bill makes helpful changes that would make our state a better place to homeschool! Please accept Rep. Layon's amendment and send the amended bill to the house OTP! Sincerely,

**Barbee Harrington** 

Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:24 AM From: clair hawley Sent: Thursday, February 3, 2022 9:30:35 AM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: To Whom it concerns Importance: Normal

Dear Representative,

I am writing in support of bill number HB 1663; I am in favor of the proposed changes to the bill that would:

- remove the 40th percentile proficiency requirement that \*no other educational option is required to reach.\*
- HB1663 will make the language clear so that our children will not be discriminated against by requirements that do not apply to special needs children.

As a homeschool mom this is an important move which has my full support.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Clair M Hawley

Sent from Mail for Windows

Archived: Friday, January 28, 2022 9:23:09 AM From: Jennifer Bobolia Sent: Monday, January 24, 2022 4:18:15 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Vote for HB 1663 on 3 February Importance: Normal

Dear House Education Committee Members,

As homeschooling parents, we are writing to request that you vote in favor of HB 1663 relative to requirements for home education students at the hearing on Thursday, February 3.

HB 1663, has the overall goal to make statutes more consistent and provide parity for homeschoolers.

1. This bill would requires school boards adopt an Equal Access policy to allow homeschool students to access extra-curricular activities on par with students attending the public school.

2. It removes language that could imply home education needs approval by a Participating Agency. Homeschoolers are only required to notify a Participating Agency by statute, approval is not required.

3. It eliminates inconsistencies regarding who to notify and when for home educated students.

4. It removes academic performance thresholds for homeschooled students. No other category of student in NH has academic performance standards. Removing this performance requirement provides protection for home educated students with special educational differences/needs.

5. This bill allows for placement parity when home educated students enroll in public schools.

Thank you for your service to the citizens and students of New Hampshire,

James Bobolia Jennifer Bobolia, APRN, MSN, FNP-C 26 Hampshire Drive Derry, NH 03038 Archived: Friday, January 28, 2022 9:23:09 AM From: Ann Marie Banfield Sent: Sunday, January 23, 2022 3:39:49 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Vote OTP HB1663 Importance: Normal

Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Ann Marie Banfield and I am a parental rights advocate in New Hampshire with a focus on academic excellence in our public schools. I am submitting written testimony in support of <u>HB1663</u>. HB1663 would clarify provisions for home education programs concerning notifications required for students moving to a new district, educational evaluations, and termination of home education.

While I tend to focus on improving public schools in New Hampshire, part of my time is also spent supporting other education options for children who need it.

I've been doing this for about 20 years now, **with no compensation**. I only mention that so you understand that when I testify, it is **never** because of who is paying me because I receive no compensation. My focus is on what is best for the child.

Over the years, this committee has shown more and more support for homeschool families in New Hampshire. Legislators have figured out that this community, in general, does a fabulous job of educating their children.

Home-school families pay taxes to their local public schools but do not receive any reimbursement for their expenses.

HB 1663 would be positive in several ways. It would require school boards to adopt an Equal Access policy, it removes academic performance thresholds, adds placement parity when enrolling in public schools, and removes language that could imply home ed needs approval by a Participating Agency.

For these reasons, I urge you to vote OTP on HB 1663.

Ann Marie Banfield North Hampton, NH Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:33 AM From: Ann Marie Banfield Sent: Monday, January 31, 2022 8:40:26 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Vote OTP on HB1663 Importance: Normal

Members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Ann Marie Banfield and I am a parental rights advocate in New Hampshire with a focus on academic excellence in education. I am unable to make the committee hearing, but I would like to submit testimony in support of <u>HB1663</u>. HB1663 would clarify provisions for home education programs concerning notifications required for students moving to a new district, educational evaluations, and termination of home education.

Updating existing law to make it better, is always a good thing. In the case of HB1663, the suggested changes would improve the home-education law for a variety of reasons. HB1663 clarifies and makes consistent who parents are to notify and when. It would add much needed language that would provide protections for home educated students who have special needs. School Boards need to adopt an Equal Access policy And finally, adding some equality when a home-schooled student enrolls in a public school, makes sense.

Let's look for ways to support all children no matter how or where they are educated. The home-schooled community is basically unfunded and receives no taxpayer money for their expenses, the least we can do is join together to show them some support.

For these reasons I urge you to vote OTP on HB1663.

Ann Marie Banfield North Hampton, NH Archived: Friday, January 28, 2022 9:23:08 AM From: Ken McLoud Sent: Tuesday, January 25, 2022 8:55:25 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Comment on HB1663 Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

My wife and I are raising our 2 small children in Goshen, NH.

We are writing to support the passage of HB1663, clarifying home schooling regulations.

One reason why we support this bill, is the change to 1.I which requires school boards to adopt policies which ensure homeschooling families cannot be barred from utilizing the government school resources for which they are taxed each year.

Another reason is the change to 2.I which clarifies that homeschooling shall be "provided, coordinated, or directed" by the parent. This change is particularly important in light of all of the non-traditional education options that have arisen during the pandemic. It is important that the state prevent bureaucrats from unjustly targeting homeschooling families utilizing these innovations by claiming that the parents are not directly "providing" the education.

I would like this email included in the bill's permanent record.

Thank you, Ken and Alison McLoud Archived: Thursday, February 3, 2022 10:59:27 AM From: p n Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 3:37:25 PM To: ~House Education Committee Subject: Re: HB 1663 Importance: Normal

Dear House Education Committee,

My name is Patricia Nugent-Mullarkey. My husband, William Mullarkey, Jr. and I live in Nottingham and have one child that we home educate. Please SUPPORT HB 1663 (a bill relative to the home education requirement). We firmly support this bill because we believe it will make statutes more consistent and provide parity for homeschoolers.

We would like this email to be part of the bill's record.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Patricia Nugent-Mullarkey & William Mullarkey, Jr.

Testimony on New Hampshire HB 1663, by Brian D. Ray, Ph.D. February 1, 2022

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- 1. Honorable Legislators, thank you for allowing my testimony on HB 1663.
- 2. My name is Brian D. Ray and I have a Ph.D. in science education, M.S. in zoology, and B.S. in biology and I am a former certified school teacher in public and private schools. I have also been a professor at the graduate and undergraduate university levels in the fields of education, science, and research. I have done research on the homeschool movement for about 37 years and I am the president of the National Home Education Research Institute in Salem, Oregon.
- 3. Forty years of research studies, by various scholars, show that homeschool students typically outperform public school students by 15 to 30 percentile points on standardized academic achievement tests (Murphy, 2014; Ray, 2017). The majority of research also shows that the home educated are developing socially and emotionally better than the public schooled, and the homeschooled do as well or better than the conventionally schooled in adulthood in various spheres of living (Chen, Hinton, & VanderWeele, 2021; Hamlin, 2019; Hamlin & Cheng, 2022; Ray, 2017).
- 4. Nevertheless, just as some public school and private school students score below average on achievement tests, whether that means the 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, or 39<sup>th</sup> percentile, so do some homeschool students.
- 5. Current law states that a homeschool student must score at or above the 40th percentile. It is crucial to note that that about 39 percent of all public school students score below the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile on nationally normed achievement tests. Yes, 39 percent of public school students, by definition, score below the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile.
- Permit me to explain a few main reasons why the mention in law of any cut-off test score (e.g., 40<sup>th</sup> percentile) with regard to homeschooling is wrong.
- 7. First, it is a discriminatory practice toward homeschooling as a legal private educational option. To be equitable, if there is to be a cut-off score for being free to continue in homeschooling, then there should also be the same cut-off score being allowed to

continue in public school and private school (whether Catholic, secular independent, or Christian).

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- 8. But there is no cut-off score for a student to continue in public school or in private institutional school. Neither state law, nor public school teachers, nor teachers' unions are arguing that there should be a cut-off score of the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile for public school students and that 39 percent of public school students should be mandated to attend private schools or homeschooling.
- 9. Second, there is no sound pedagogical reason to have different that is lower standards for public schooling and private schooling as compared to private homeschooling. This is especially true in light of the fact that such a large portions of public school students have been found to be below proficient on the national NAEP testing program and when so many public school students have shown such little educational growth over the past two years.
- 10. Third, such a cut-off score for homeschooling (or any kind of schooling) ignores the reality that there will always be a given percent of students whether public schooled, private schooled, or homeschooled below any given percentile cut-off point. The important thing in education is not whether a student is below point X or Y on a standardized test, but whether the student is making appropriate educational progress. A homeschool student (or public school or private school student) moving from the 20<sup>th</sup> percentile one year to the 27<sup>th</sup> percentile might indicate tremendous growth and learning. All educators should know this.
- 11. Fourth, and finally, research shows that the degree of state control and regulation of homeschooling is not related to academic achievement (Ray, 2010). Achievement test scores of homeschool students in states with higher regulation are the same as states with lesser regulation.
- 12. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

Sincerely,

Brian Ray

Brian D. Ray, Ph.D. President, National Home Education Research Institute, www.nheri.org, 503-364-1490, bray@nheri.org

# References

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   Evidence from a nationally representative survey of American households. *Peabody Journal of Education*, 94:3, 312-327, DOI: 10.1080/0161956X.2019.1617582.
- Hamlin, Daniel, & Cheng, Albert. (2022): Homeschooling, perceived social isolation, and life trajectories: An analysis of formerly homeschooled adults. *Journal of School Choice*, <u>https://doi.org/10.1080/15582159.2022.2028338.</u>
- Murphy, Joseph. (2014). The social and educational outcomes of homeschooling. *Sociological Spectrum: Mid-South Sociological Association*, *34*(3), 244-272, DOI: 10.1080/02732173.2014.895640.
- Ray, Brian D. (2010, February 3). Academic achievement and demographic traits of homeschool students: A nationwide study. Academic Leadership Journal, 8(1), https://scholars.fhsu.edu/alj/vol8/iss1/7/.
- Ray, Brian D. (2017). A systematic review of the empirical research on selected aspects of homeschooling as a school choice. *Journal of School Choice: International Research and Reform*, 11(4), 604-621, <u>https://doi.org/10.1080/15582159.2017.1395638.</u>

#### February 3, 2022

To: House Education Committee

From: Michelle Levell, Granite State Home Educators

Re: HB 1663 relative to requirements for home education students

Dear Honorable members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Michelle Levell and I am the director and a co-founder of Granite State Home Educators. GSHE is an all-volunteer 501c4 non-profit. We have approximately 6,000 members around the state and nine social media accounts with over 14,000 participants.

GSHE supports HB 1663 because it addresses important aspects of home education statute; it resolves some "housekeeping" inconsistencies and gives parity to homeschoolers relative to students in other educational programs. This bill impacts unfunded homeschooled students that follow RSA 193-A, not those participating in the Education Freedom Account program that are governed by RSA 194-F, to make the distinction clear.

There are five parts to HB 1663.

# Part 1 requires school boards to adopt an Equal Access policy.

The current statute says school boards may adopt an Equal Access policy. HB 1663 changes "may" to "shall." This is a simple change that ensures taxpaying homeschooling families have access to curricular and cocurricular programs at their local schools.

Families pay local taxes that go to their district schools whether or not they enroll their children. In fact, unfunded homeschoolers are a tax savings to their local districts and the state. According to research using the US census, estimated homeschool numbers, and the average cost per public-school pupil as of 2017, homeschooled children represent a savings of \$80.7 million dollars to New Hampshire. By comparison, the average cost per public-school pupil is over \$18,000 according to the NH Department of Education's latest data.

I recently completed research to examine districts' home education policies using a sampling of 100 SAUs across New Hampshire. Of these 100 SAUs, 36 do not have an Equal Access policy as written in <u>RSA 193:1-c</u>. Failing to have an Equal Access policy denies taxpaying families the option to participate in programs that they subsidize.

If resident students participate in classes or activities at their local district high schools, SAUs are compensated per <u>RSA 198:38</u>. Changing "may" to "shall" does not represent an additional cost to districts.

Families simply want the opportunity to participate in programs at their local schools that they already financially support.

#### Part 2 removes language that could imply home education needs approval by a participating agency.

New Hampshire state and local education institutions are not accountable for homeschooled students' academic outcomes, progress, advancement, or graduation. They do not approve, authorize, or supervise home education programs and are not liable for these students' outcomes or achievements.

The simple change in HB 1663 clarifies that home education is "provided, coordinated, or directed" by families, not these educational institutions, for homeschooled students' learning. This new language makes it clear that the responsibility lies with families.

As I researched NH district policies, I found some that expressly say homeschooling families need to consult with their local SAU to use other educational providers. This is exactly why "coordinated or directed" must be added to the definition of home education.

# Part 3 eliminates inconsistencies regarding who to notify and when.

Currently the initial and termination notifications have inconsistent requirements in <u>RSA 193-A</u>. Upon beginning a home ed program, families are given three options: they may inform their local SAU office, a private school that offers participating agency services, or the NH Department of Education. This is in RSA 193-A:5, I. However, upon terminating their home ed program, they are required to inform the NH Department of Education and their local SAU or the private school that they used as their participating agency, according to RSA 193-A:5, III. The proposed change keeps the notification options consistent and protects student privacy.

# Part 4 removes unequitable academic achievement thresholds and provides protections for home-educated students with special education differences.

Currently, unfunded homeschooled students are the only educational pathway that has individual student academic achievement requirements written into state law. The current home-education statute says a child must show "progress commensurate with age and ability." It further states that if the family uses a standardized test for the annual assessment, that the child must achieve a composite score at or above the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile to demonstrate academic proficiency. Achievement at or above the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile means that 39% of students fail automatically. This standard is unique to unfunded home-educated children.

By comparison, Prenda students, who are enrolled in the Recovering Bright Futures program and funded by a \$6 million federal grant, <u>may opt-out of the statewide assessment</u> like their public-school peers and have no academic achievement standard. <u>Funded Education Freedom Account students</u> have no performance requirement, yet have an average of \$4,500 state adequacy money follow the child. Students participating in <u>town-tuitioning programs</u> also have no academic achievement requirement in statute and have local tax money follow them to an out-of-district or private school. <u>Students in public schools cost an average of \$18,000</u>, yet do not have individual academic achievement requirements in statute.

Just like other states, New Hampshire's public schools struggled with learning loss in 2020 due to the pandemic. However, the statewide achievement scores indicate generally low proficiency across all three subject areas before Covid was a factor. According to state statute <u>RSA 193-H:2</u>, public-school districts were required to have "all pupils at the proficient level or above on the statewide assessment by the 2018-19 school year." That benchmark was not achieved.

2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 Covid 56% 58% 59% 61% ELA 52% 48% 48% 49% 49% Math 38% Covid 41% 37% Covid 39% 36% 35% Science

The statewide assessment proficiency scores for the past six years are below.

In addition, public-school students may opt-out of the statewide assessment per <u>RSA 193-C:6</u>; home-educated students are required to do some kind of annual assessment and do not have an opt-out choice.

The academic achievement on a standardized test of the 40<sup>th</sup> percentile or above is an unequitable requirement, particularly given that home-educated students do not receive federal, state, or local dollars.

HB 1663 also seeks to protect homeschooled students who have special-education challenges. They are a fastgrowing segment of the homeschool community and they need clear protection stated in the law. The current statute says "progress commensurate with age and ability." HB 1663 provides language that acknowledges and protects those students who have disabilities by explicitly taking their differences into consideration for their annual assessments.

Note that the proposed changes to RSA 193-A:6 do not remove the annual assessment requirement; homeeducated students are still required to administer some type of assessment and the options remain the same -a standardized test, an evaluation by an education professional who either has certification or is currently teaching in one of NH's private schools, or another agreed upon method. These are not altered in HB 1663.

# Part 5 adds placement parity when enrolling in public schools.

More and more families have experimented with home education these past two years during Covid. They are temporarily, or short-term, homeschooling their children and waiting for their local schools to return to "normal." However, many have met great resistance when trying to re-enroll, even after being withdrawn only a few months.

Local public schools have great discretion whether or not they will honor any credits or achievements these "crisis homeschoolers" attain during their brief time away from their home district schools. This is happening for students even in third and fourth grade, not only those at the high-school level.

Over the past 12 years, I have counseled countless families who homeschooled multiple years who wished to enroll in their local public schools. Many were denied most of the academic attainments they achieved during their homeschool years, even with accredited programs. Demonstration of mastery through placement tests are often denied.

All we seek is parity; that these homeschooled students are judged on the same basis as other incoming students. We aren't asking for favors or special considerations. These students deserve to be considered without discrimination.

In closing, please support thousands of unfunded home-educated students and pass HB 1663. Homeschoolers are not asking for funding, services, or special favors. We simply want some important details cleaned up in the statute, privacy, explicit protection for our special ed children, and a level playing field.

Please give HB 1663 an Ought to Pass vote.

Good morning. My name is Amanda Weeden and I am a home educator here in New Hampshire. I think that this is the most important descriptor in the list of roles I'm about to share because this bill directly affects me and my family.

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I am a leader, co-founder and Board Member of Granite State Home Educators, the most active and supportive homeschool community in NH. A handful of us spend an inordinate amount of time in our network of Facebook groups supporting, educating and advocating for homeschoolers in NH. We maintain the premier website for resources in our great state, host countless info sessions, events, and meetups. We mentor, encourage and assist home educators of all kinds online and in person.

I am a leader of Christian Home Educators NH and Southern Maine. Formerly Seacoast Christian Home Educators, we made the move to a statewide, non-denominational Christian support group during the pandemic, and at just shy of 1000 members, are extremely active politically and in our local communities across NH.

I am the Special Needs Homeschooling Representative on HEAC, the Home Education Advisory Council, appointed by the Commissioner. It is my job to remain keenly aware of legislation, guidelines, issues and concerns that involve special needs homeschoolers and to represent the best interests of special needs homeschoolers to the public, the Commissioner, the DOE and the legislature.

I am a Special Needs Homeschooling Advocate. I spend my free time counseling, supporting and encouraging special needs homeschooling families. I create content for workshops, my YouTube channel and GSHE 's website, blog and newsletter. I hoard curriculum, compile lists and share everything I know with anyone who needs help, free of charge.

I do info sessions on the homeschool law in NH. I make phone calls to public school Superintendents and Principals. I go to school board meetings. I email legislators. I created the only special needs inclusive co-op for homeschoolers last September. I use my sphere of influence to help build a homeschool community that is strong, that is fierce, that is here, mobilized.

I am a veteran homeschool mom. I homeschool 4 children ages 15-6. I'm a special needs homeschool mom. And I am here, testifying, because all of this makes me an expert on home education in NH.

Now I fully realize that there are people who signed in on this bill, who might be here to testify today as well who not only are not homeschoolers, but \*probably don't know the first thing about homeschooling, our requirements and particularly the law\*. There are organizations that saw "House Education Committee" and "Home Education" together in the same place and alerted their groups to sign in in opposition to this bill, without even reading it.

I am not a public school parent. I'm not part of a teachers union. I'm not an educational lobbyist. I \*AM\* an expert in home education in NH, and I've spent years earning the privilege to speak here today on behalf of the homeschool community. \* •

A brief explanation of this bill should clear up any misgivings one might have as to whether or not HB1663 is needed, necessary and relevant.

HB 1663 has five objectives:

1. Requires school boards adopt an Equal Access policy. It is a simple change from "may" to "shall." What is Equal Access?

This current law states that home educated students have the right to curricular and co-curricular activities at their local SAU. Public schools may not treat homeschoolers any differently than enrolled students when signing up for classes, programs, activities and such at their SAU. This is \*current\* law. Homeschool families pay taxes just like public school families and this is a legal right.

In NH, there are dozens of public school districts that either 1. Have no written guidelines whatsoever or 2. Have extremely outdated and often illegal guidelines.

Did you hear about the Homeschool Advocate who challenged the Rochester School District, ultimately resulting in the DOE taking legal action against the District for discriminating against homeschoolers?

That was me, ask me to tell you the whole story another time, it's exactly why this one word needs to be changed.

Since I sacrifice my time to educate and correct public school districts regarding their non-existent or outdated policies, I think I know what I'm talking about. (Rochester's was from 1996.) The law needs to be updated by changing the word "may" to "shall".

2. Removes language that could imply home education needs approval by a Participating Agency. Parents direct their child's home education. By adding "coordinated, or directed by (for his) or her own child" the law would make it explicitly clear that it's parent directed, and inclusive of both genders. The second part, "unless the provider is as otherwise agreed upon by the appropriate parties named in

paragraph II]" needs to go. There's no other "appropriate parties" to agree on anything. The PA does not have this power legally, and the law should reflect that.

3. Eliminates inconsistencies regarding who to notify and when. This is a long overdue addition. I am asked regularly, across all media groups and in person, exactly the questions that this part answers.

Notifying agencies (PA private school, the DOE or local SAU) \*need\* to know if a homeschooled child moves out of state, or out of district. This is a simple and clear change to the language to make it consistent.

4. Removes academic performance thresholds and provides protections for home educated students with special ed differences. Homeschoolers are the only educational pathway that has

an individual academic achievement requirement in statute (even though they are not supported by any tax dollars).

Allow me to give you a quick example to illustrate how 1. Unfair and 2. Unjust this portion of the current law is.

Let's say three kids get hired making donuts.

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The boss tells all three kids, they each must make at least 40 donuts per shift.

The first kid makes 63 donuts, but the boss didn't even ask how many were made.

The second kid makes 27 donuts, and the boss didn't ask that kid either.

The third kid makes 13, the boss asks this kid how many were made, and then fires that kid for not making at least 40 donuts.

Is this fair? Is this just? Of course, this silly example is about donuts, and it's easy to see why treating three kids differently is unfair. It's easy to see that it's unjust to fire the one kid, if the boss didn't even care about the other kids. Now imagine this: the third kid has severe dyslexia and can't read the recipe.

In NH, homeschooled students have the requirement of year end assessments. Parents typically choose one of two options: standardized testing or portfolio review. Parents choose which standardized test to administer, or who to hire, (a certified teacher,) to review a child's portfolio. If a parent chooses a standardized test, the student must achieve at least 40th percentile. This is written in the homeschool law.

It's not law for public school kids.

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It's not law for Prenda pods.

In fact, \*homeschoolers are the only educational pathway that has this academic achievement requirement, but we are not funded by tax dollars. It's a mystery why traditional, unfunded RSA193-A homeschoolers are held to a higher standard than any other educational option, but this portion of the statute needs to go. It's unfair. It's unjust. Just like my donut example, it's unfair and unjust to treat my kids differently than public school kids. To make it a matter of discrimination, children like mine with special needs, learning disabilities and those who need accommodations and/or modifications are not \*able\* to be in compliance with this section of statute. There's absolutely no room for inclusion the way the law currently stands if I choose standardized testing for my child's year end assessment. I could speak on this point for hours, but since time is short I'll say this, as an expert in special needs homeschooling:

Spec ed homeschoolers should have their disability expressly considered in their annual assessment. This bill accomplishes that.

5. Currently public schools use arbitrary and subjective means to determine the placement for homeschoolers wishing to enroll at their local schools. We have stuck it out with hundreds of families who, for various reasons, decided to temporarily homeschool their children. As some of these families decided to return their children to public school, they were met with resistance. Some were treated differently than kids not coming from a homeschool pathway. Instead of placement by age and address, they were asked to provide portfolios and year end

assessments. This bill clearly states a nondiscrimination policy if homeschooled students re-enroll in public school.

These five main points addressed in this bill are important and long past due. There's absolutely nothing of concern for taxpayers. There's nothing to object to. The fact that Representative Layon has taken the time to craft this legislation points to the need for your Ought to Pass vote. She is also a homeschool mom and understands the importance of clearly updating this statute to reflect consistent, equitable treatment under the law.

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In closing, I'd like to thank you, members of the House Education Committee, for your service and dedication to equitable (Fair/Just) education for all NH children.

# Testimony by Carrie LeSage in favor of RSA 1663 (February 3, 2022)

Hi, my name is Carrie LeSage. I'm a New Hampshire resident from Candia, and I appreciate you listening to my testimony, which I'll keep short and sweet.

As a homeschooling parent, I have come to express my strong support of HB 1663. I believe this bill would provide much-needed clarity around the legal requirements for regular "unfunded" homeschoolers, who are providing home education to their own children under RSA 193-A.

Before I talk about the bill, I'd like to share a few things about our home education program:

- 1. As homeschoolers under RSA 193-A, we are entirely "unfunded." We <u>do not</u> receive any funding from the state via the EFA program or any other funding sources that might be out there. We cover all of our own educational expenses out-of-pocket, and are not asking anyone else to provide funding for us.
- 2. In addition to self-funding our homeschooling program, we also support our local public schools through our tax dollars. We are happy to do so even though our children do not currently attend there.
- 3. We have nothing to do with the EFA program. We are in a completely unrelated category, which is worth mentioning because so much confusion has arisen from using the word "homeschool" as part of that program.

Regarding HB 1663, the reasons I support this bill are as follows:

First, this bill rectifies an inequitable requirement in our current law, which sets an achievement requirement for homeschooled students when similar requirements are not in place for any other educational pathway in New Hampshire. Homeschooled students, who receive <u>no</u> state funding, should not have *stricter* achievement requirements than the schools funded by the state.

Secondly, this bill takes steps to clarify that it is parents, not school district administrators, who are ultimately responsible for their children's education. This is a responsibility we take quite seriously, and we work hard to make sure our kids have the best education possible. The wording changes in the bill, though they seem mundane, are quite important for maintaining well defined expectations and boundaries in the relationships between homeschooling parents and participating agencies.

In closing, I thank you all for your service in this committee, and encourage you to support HB 1663 to bring greater clarity and equity to our state's homeschooling law.

#### HB 1663 Home Education Bill 2022 Testimony to the House Education Committee

My name is Jody Underwood. I am Chair of the Croydon School Board. I am on the board of the School District Governance Association. I have a Ph.D. in Education. I have been a school choice advocate in New Hampshire for many years. Although I support all the proposed changes and encourage you to vote OTP on HB1663, there are some important ways in which this bill doesn't go far enough.

Although the parents of ALL students pay taxes to support the schools of the districts in which they live, homeschooled and non-public-school students are often treated differently in terms of access to curricular and extra-curricular programs offered at district schools. There are a few reasons for this.

First, it's currently too easy for school boards to lose track of what they're supposed to provide to homeschool students and other non-public-school students. I've been on the Croydon school board since 2010, and I'm only now realizing that I didn't know exactly what districts are supposed to provide to these students. School boards are required to create policies for different issues, which forces them to become aware of these issues. One of the required policies should ensure equal access to programs to ALL students living in their districts, not just those students who attend district schools.

Second, it's current practice in many districts to exclude homeschool and non-public-school students from participating in programs if they have failed to meet arbitrary academic standards, while not excluding public-school students who fail to meet those same standards. If a minimum standard is required for ANY students living in the district, it must be required for ALL students. There are two ways this might be accomplished. One would be to simply remove the minimum standards, and let all students participate in everything. Another would be to keep the minimum standards, and use them to exclude any students who fail to meet them — including students who happen to be attending the schools where the programs are offered.

Third, one of the RSAs that is being amended by this bill is RSA 193-A:6 II, which says that parents need to evaluate their homeschooled students annually, and then says what it means for an evaluation to be successful. HB1663 proposes to delete the statement that implies that homeschooled students must perform at the fortieth percentile:

"... Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency"

However, note that the RSA does not specify any consequences if homeschooled students don't reach the fortieth percentile. That is, it's not so much a 'statute' as a 'definition'. While deleting that statement would be a fine step, it would be simpler and more sensible to simply remove the reporting requirement completely. Arguing over how to change a rule that has no consequences for being broken is pointless and a waste of time.

But if the definition is to remain in place, it provides an interesting opportunity to address another source of unequal treatment. That is, if the implication is that a homeschooled student who is underperforming should be removed from the homeschool environment, then the same should be true for a public-school student who is underperforming — that student should be removed from the public school that he's currently attending. If we're going to have consequences for failure to meet some minimum standard, then they should apply to everyone, or to no one.

Again, please vote OTP on HB1663, and consider making the changes even broader. Thank you for your attention.

Jody S. Underwood, Ph.D. Chair, Croydon School Board Board member, School District Governance Association Hello, and thank you for your time today. Please enter my following testimony, in support for HB1663, into the official record of this bill:

My name is Angel Brisson, and I live in Manchester, NH. My husband and I home educate our daughter, and we support HB1663 for these reasons:

• Firstly, regarding Part 2 of HB1663-home education was designed to be directed by parents. Thus, it is solely our right and responsibility to direct our child's home education program—and our family need not solicit input from the Participating Agency.

It was never intended that a home education program must be agreed upon by both the parents and the Participating Agency. The Participating Agency serves only to acknowledge the letter of intent to home educate, and to retain the letter on behalf of the family.

- Next, regarding Part 3-III of HB1663—if our family ever moves to another school district, we want it clear that we're only required to notify **one** Participating Agency that we'd be terminating our home education within our previous district. We'd not want the incorrect inference that we'd be required to notify *more than one* of the Participating Agencies (the local SAU, the NH DOE or a private school).
- Last but definitely not least, pertaining to Part 4 of HB1663—as home educators, we simply seek parity for home educated students when it comes to academic achievement standards. Currently, home-educated students (*who receive zero taxpayer funds*) are the only students for whom arbitrary academic achievement requirements are defined. The home education statute reads that a student must score "at or above the fortieth percentile" to show "reasonable academic proficiency".

In stark contrast, there are no such requirements for students who are in any of the four other educational tracks (all of which receive taxpayer funds): public schools (both local and charter), private schools, Prenda pods, and EFA at-home students.

(1) For <u>public schools</u>, the mandated statewide assessment does not have **any** academic achievement requirements for students or schools, and students may opt out of testing.
 (2) <u>Private schools</u> have their own testing and evaluation criteria, that are not mandated by the state.

(3) Prenda pod students may opt out of statewide assessments.

(4) <u>EFA participants</u> must submit annual assessments, but have no academic performance requirements.

That's **inequitable**. It makes no sense for the "fortieth percentile" requirement to exist for homeeducated students, when **no child on any other educational track** has academic achievement requirements defined in a statute.

Because HB 1663 seeks to correct critical fallacies in the current home-education statute, we request that you please pass this bill.

Thank you, Angel Brisson AngelBrisson72@gmail.com Good morning. My name is Amanda Weeden and I am a home educator here in New Hampshire. I think that this is the most important descriptor in the list of roles I'm about to share because this bill directly affects me and my family.

I am a leader, co-founder and Board Member of Granite State Home Educators, the most active and supportive homeschool community in NH. A handful of us spend an inordinate amount of time in our network of Facebook groups supporting, educating and advocating for homeschoolers in NH. We maintain the premier website for resources in our great state, host countless info sessions, events, and meetups. We mentor, encourage and assist home educators of all kinds online and in person.

I am a leader of Christian Home Educators NH and Southern Maine. Formerly Seacoast Christian Home Educators, we made the move to a statewide, non-denominational Christian support group during the pandemic, and at just shy of 1000 members, are extremely active politically and in our local communities across NH.

I am the Special Needs Homeschooling Representative on HEAC, the Home Education Advisory Council, appointed by the Commissioner. It is my job to remain keenly aware of legislation, guidelines, issues and concerns that involve special needs homeschoolers and to represent the best interests of special needs homeschoolers to the public, the Commissioner, the DOE and the legislature.

I am a Special Needs Homeschooling Advocate. I spend my free time counseling, supporting and encouraging special needs homeschooling families. I create content for workshops, my YouTube channel and GSHE 's website, blog and newsletter. I hoard curriculum, compile lists and share everything I know with anyone who needs help, free of charge.

I do info sessions on the homeschool law in NH. I make phone calls to public school Superintendents and Principals. I go to school board meetings. I email legislators. I created the only special needs inclusive co-op for homeschoolers last September. I use my sphere of influence to help build a homeschool community that is strong, that is fierce, that is here, mobilized.

I am a veteran homeschool mom. I homeschool 4 children ages 15-6. I'm a special needs homeschool mom. And I am here, testifying, because all of this makes me an expert on home education in NH.

Now I fully realize that there are people who signed in on this bill, who might be here to testify today as well who not only are not homeschoolers, but \*probably don't know the first thing about homeschooling, our requirements and particularly the law\*. There are organizations that saw "House Education Committee" and "Home Education" together in the same place and alerted their groups to sign in in opposition to this bill, without even reading it.

I am not a public school parent. I'm not part of a teachers union. I'm not an educational lobbyist. I \*AM\* an expert in home education in NH, and I've spent years earning the privilege to speak here today on behalf of the homeschool community.

A brief explanation of this bill should clear up any misgivings one might have as to whether or not HB1663 is needed, necessary and relevant.

HB 1663 has five objectives:

1. Requires school boards adopt an Equal Access policy. It is a simple change from "may" to "shall." What is Equal Access?

This current law states that home educated students have the right to curricular and co-curricular activities at their local SAU. Public schools may not treat homeschoolers any differently than enrolled students when signing up for classes, programs, activities and such at their SAU. This is \*current\* law. Homeschool families pay taxes just like public school families and this is a legal right.

In NH, there are dozens of public school districts that either 1. Have no written guidelines whatsoever or 2. Have extremely outdated and often illegal guidelines.

Did you hear about the Homeschool Advocate who challenged the Rochester School District, ultimately resulting in the DOE taking legal action against the District for discriminating against homeschoolers?

That was me, ask me to tell you the whole story another time, it's exactly why this one word needs to be changed.

Since I sacrifice my time to educate and correct public school districts regarding their non-existent or outdated policies, I think I know what I'm talking about. (Rochester's was from 1996.) The law needs to be updated by changing the word "may" to "shall".

2. Removes language that could imply home education needs approval by a Participating Agency. Parents direct their child's home education. By adding "coordinated, or directed by (for his) or her own child" the law would make it explicitly clear that it's parent directed, and inclusive of both genders. The second part, "unless the provider is as otherwise agreed upon by the appropriate parties named in

paragraph II]" needs to go. There's no other "appropriate parties" to agree on anything. The PA does not have this power legally, and the law should reflect that.

3. Eliminates inconsistencies regarding who to notify and when. This is a long overdue addition. I am asked regularly, across all media groups and in person, exactly the questions that this part answers.

Notifying agencies (PA private school, the DOE or local SAU) \*need\* to know if a homeschooled child moves out of state, or out of district. This is a simple and clear change to the language to make it consistent.

4. Removes academic performance thresholds and provides protections for home educated students with special ed differences. Homeschoolers are the only educational pathway that has

an individual academic achievement requirement in statute (even though they are not supported by any tax dollars).

Allow me to give you a quick example to illustrate how 1. Unfair and 2. Unjust this portion of the current law is.

Let's say three kids get hired making donuts.

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The boss tells all three kids, they each must make at least 40 donuts per shift.

The first kid makes 63 donuts, but the boss didn't even ask how many were made.

The second kid makes 27 donuts, and the boss didn't ask that kid either.

The third kid makes 13, the boss asks this kid how many were made, and then fires that kid for not making at least 40 donuts.

Is this fair? Is this just? Of course, this silly example is about donuts, and it's easy to see why treating three kids differently is unfair. It's easy to see that it's unjust to fire the one kid, if the boss didn't even care about the other kids. Now imagine this: the third kid has severe dyslexia and can't read the recipe.

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Spec ed homeschoolers should have their disability expressly considered in their annual assessment. This bill accomplishes that.

5. Currently public schools use arbitrary and subjective means to determine the placement for homeschoolers wishing to enroll at their local schools. We have stuck it out with hundreds of families who, for various reasons, decided to temporarily homeschool their children. As some of these families decided to return their children to public school, they were met with resistance. Some were treated differently than kids not coming from a homeschool pathway. Instead of placement by age and address, they were asked to provide portfolios and year end

assessments. This bill clearly states a nondiscrimination policy if homeschooled students re-enroll in public school.

These five main points addressed in this bill are important and long past due. There's absolutely nothing of concern for taxpayers. There's nothing to object to. The fact that Representative Layon has taken the time to craft this legislation points to the need for your Ought to Pass vote. She is also a homeschool mom and understands the importance of clearly updating this statute to reflect consistent, equitable treatment under the law.

In closing, I'd like to thank you, members of the House Education Committee, for your service and dedication to equitable (Fair/Just) education for all NH children.

# Relative to HB1663

My name is Deborah Mears, I administer Tri-City Christian Academy's Participating Agency program. The school is located at 150 West High Street in Somersworth, NH. I want to specifically address the requirement for termination of a home education program.

When parents notify through our school, and they do from all over the State of New Hampshire, their notification remains private. We are only required to send statistics to the State in the October report. It is inconsistent to require parents to send termination notification to the Commissioner of Education when that office holds no record of the family. It should go to the chosen Participating Agency, only.

One of the reasons families choose our school is because we respect their privacy. Our letter of acknowledgement states that we do not give any of their information out without their consent. I think that this Bill should clear up that inconsistency. I understand that an amendment has been introduced to that end.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Mears (603) 498 5436 21 Victoria Drive Somersworth, NH 03878

#### HB 1663 - AS INTRODUCED

#### 2022 SESSION

 $22-2543 \\ 10/05$ 

HOUSE BILL	1663
AN ACT	relative to requirements for home education students.
SPONSORS:	Rep. Layon, Rock. 6; Rep. Rice, Hills. 37; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Nunez, Hills. 37; Rep. A. Lekas, Hills. 37; Rep. Notter, Hills. 21; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4
COMMITTEE:	Education

### ANALYSIS

The bill clarifies provisions for home education programs concerning notifications required for students moving to a new district, educational evaluations, and termination of home education.

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

#### HB 1663 - AS INTRODUCED

#### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT

relative to requirements for home education students.

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

Access to Public School Programs by Nonpublic, Public Chartered Schools, or Home Educated
 Pupils. Amend RSA 193:1-c, I to read as follows:

3 Nonpublic, public chartered school, or home educated pupils shall have access to I.  $\mathbf{4}$ curricular courses and cocurricular programs offered by the school district in which the pupil resides. The local school board [may] shall adopt a policy regulating participation in curricular courses and  $\mathbf{5}$ 6 cocurricular programs, provided that such policy shall not be more restrictive for non-public, public 7chartered school, or home educated pupils than the policy governing the school district's resident 8 pupils. In this section, "cocurricular" shall include those activities which are designed to supplement 9 and enrich regular academic programs of study, provide opportunities for social development, and 10encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community. 11 For purposes of allowing access as described in this section, a "home educated pupil" shall not 12include any pupil who has graduated from a high school level program of home education, or its 13equivalent, or has attained the age of 21.

14

2 Home Education Defined. Amend RSA 193-A:4, I to read as follows:

I. Instruction shall be deemed home education if it consists of instruction in science, mathematics, language, government, history, health, reading, writing, spelling, the history of the constitutions of New Hampshire and the United States, and an exposure to and appreciation of art and music. Home education shall be provided, *coordinated, or directed* by a parent for his *or her* own child[, unless the provider is as otherwise agreed upon by the appropriate parties named in paragraph II].

21

3 Home Education Program; Notifications. Amend RSA 193-A:5, I - III to read as follows:

I. Any parent commencing a home education program for a child, for a child who withdraws from a public school, or for a child who moves into a school district *and previously notified the resident district superintendent*, shall notify the commissioner of the department of education, resident district superintendent, or principal of a nonpublic school of such within 5 business days of commencing the program.

II. Notification made by the parent pursuant to paragraph I shall include a list of the names, addresses, and birth dates of all children who are participating in the home education program.

30 III. Written notice of termination of a home education program shall be filed by the parent 31 with the commissioner of education[<sub>7</sub>] and[<del>, in addition,</del>] the resident district superintendent or

#### HB 1663 - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

nonpublic school principal notified under paragraph I within 15 days of said termination. Any 1

- $\mathbf{2}$ parent who previously notified the resident district superintendent of a home education 3 program who moves from said district shall notify the original resident district superintendent that the child has moved from the district. 4
- $\mathbf{5}$

4 Home Education; Educational Evaluation. Amend RSA 193-A:6, II to read as follows:

6

II. The parent shall provide for an annual educational evaluation in which is documented 7the child's demonstration of educational progress at a level commensurate with the child's age and 8 ability. The child shall be deemed to have successfully completed [his] an annual evaluation upon 9 meeting the requirements of any one of the following:

10

(a) A certified teacher or a teacher currently teaching in a nonpublic school who is 11 selected by the parent shall evaluate the child's educational progress upon review of the portfolio 12and discussion with the parent or child;

13(b) The child shall take any national student achievement test, administered by a person 14who meets the qualifications established by the provider or publisher of the test[. Composite results 15at or above the fortieth percentile on such tests shall be deemed reasonable academic proficiency;

16

(c) The child shall take a state student assessment test used by the resident district. 17Composite results at or above the fortieth percentile on such state test shall be deemed reasonable 18academic proficiency; or];

19(d) The child shall be evaluated using any other valid measurement tool mutually 20agreed upon by the parent and the commissioner of education, resident district superintendent, or nonpublic school principal[-]; or 21

22(e) A child with a disability as defined in RSA 186-C:2, I, shall be evaluated with 23the disability in mind and shall not be subject to more restrictive evaluation criteria in the 24home education setting than a child with a similar disability in a traditional school 25setting appropriate to such disability.

26

5 Home Educated Students. Amend RSA 193-A:11 to read as follows:

27193-A:11 Authority of School District Officials. No superintendent, school board, school 28principal, or other school district official shall propose, adopt, or enforce any policy or procedure 29governing home educated pupils that is inconsistent with or more restrictive than the provisions of 30 this chapter and any rules adopted pursuant to RSA 193-A:3. Home educated students entering 31a public school shall be enrolled based upon age and address unless the receiving school requires academic progress for promotion of existing students, and shall not require 3233student portfolios or test scores unless students within the school are stratified or placed by academic performance. 34

356 Effective Date.

36 I. Section 1 of this act shall take effect 90 days after its passage.

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