

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 9, 2022**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Majority of the Committee on Education to which  
was referred HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL,**

**AN ACT limiting education freedom account funding to  
budgeted amounts. Having considered the same, report  
the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED,  
that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

**Rep. Glenn Cordelli**

**FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

**MAJORITY  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Education</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL</b>
Title:	<b>limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.</b>
Date:	<b>February 9, 2022</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE</b>

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The successful education freedom account (EFA) program provides the opportunity for an education that meets the needs of over 1,800 students. This bill would decimate the program by establishing an arbitrary budget for the program. The bill's budget for this school year would cut the program to approximately 30 students. What happens to the other 1,800 students in the program? Evidently, they would be dropped from the program and would have to return to the education option they were trying to escape. Would they have to return the account funds? Evidently. And the bill's budget for next year would accommodate only a little over 700 students. We believe that students deserve the education that meets their needs and the EFA program provides that opportunity.

Vote 10-8.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli  
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Education

**HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL**, limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the **Majority** of Education. The successful education freedom account (EFA) program provides the opportunity for an education that meets the needs of over 1,800 students. This bill would decimate the program by establishing an arbitrary budget for the program. The bill's budget for this school year would cut the program to approximately 30 students. What happens to the other 1,800 students in the program? Evidently, they would be dropped from the program and would have to return to the education option they were trying to escape. Would they have to return the account funds? Evidently. And the bill's budget for next year would accommodate only a little over 700 students. We believe that students deserve the education that meets their needs and the EFA program provides that opportunity. **Vote 10-8.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**REGULAR CALENDAR**

**February 9, 2022**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Minority of the Committee on Education to which  
was referred HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL,**

**AN ACT limiting education freedom account funding to  
budgeted amounts. Having considered the same, and  
being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the  
following amendment, and the recommendation that  
the bill OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

**Rep. David Luneau**

**FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE**

**MINORITY  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	<b>Education</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL</b>
Title:	<b>limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.</b>
Date:	<b>February 9, 2022</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>REGULAR</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT 2022-0578h</b>

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

The bill holds the cost of the education freedom account (EFA) program to budgeted amounts. The department budget for the EFA program in FY22 was \$129,000 and was based on the majority of EFA students exiting their public school in that year. Actual cost came to \$8.1 million with more than 80% of EFA students already in private or home schools, previously at no cost to the taxpayer. The minority believes the department should be held accountable to their budget requests and not be given a blank check to pay for private school tuition and home school costs. The amendment makes accommodations for current EFA students and sets the EFA budget to actual costs for FY22 and projected costs for FY23. After this biennium, the program would be held to the amounts approved in the state budget. The bill, as amended, holds the department accountable to its budget requests and is fiscally responsible.

Rep. David Luneau  
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## REGULAR CALENDAR

Education

**HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL**, limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts. **OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.**

Rep. David Luneau for the **Minority** of Education. The bill holds the cost of the education freedom account (EFA) program to budgeted amounts. The department budget for the EFA program in FY22 was \$129,000 and was based on the majority of EFA students exiting their public school in that year. Actual cost came to \$8.1 million with more than 80% of EFA students already in private or home schools, previously at no cost to the taxpayer. The minority believes the department should be held accountable to their budget requests and not be given a blank check to pay for private school tuition and home school costs. The amendment makes accommodations for current EFA students and sets the EFA budget to actual costs for FY22 and projected costs for FY23. After this biennium, the program would be held to the amounts approved in the state budget. The bill, as amended, holds the department accountable to its budget requests and is fiscally responsible.

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Rep. Luneau, Merr. 10  
February 8, 2022  
2022-0578h  
10/04

Amendment to HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL

1 Amend RSA 194-F:11 as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 194-F:11 Appropriation From Education Trust Fund. The ~~[amount necessary]~~ **amounts** to fund  
4 ~~[any]~~ grants or transfers of funds authorized under this chapter ~~[is]~~ **are** hereby appropriated to the  
5 department from the education trust fund created under RSA 198:39. The governor is authorized to  
6 draw a warrant from the education trust fund to satisfy the state's obligation under this section.  
7 Such warrant for payment shall ~~[be issued regardless of the balance of funds available in the~~  
8 ~~education trust fund. If the balance in the education trust fund, after the issuance of any such~~  
9 ~~warrant, is less than zero, the comptroller shall transfer sufficient funds from the general fund to~~  
10 ~~eliminate such deficit. The commissioner of the department of administrative services shall inform~~  
11 ~~the fiscal committee and the governor and council of such balance. This reporting shall not in any~~  
12 ~~way prohibit or delay the distribution of any grant or transfer of funds authorized under this~~  
13 ~~chapter]~~ **not exceed \$8,096,916 for fiscal year 2022 and \$9,483,476 for fiscal year 2023, and in**  
14 **subsequent fiscal years shall not exceed the amounts appropriated for such purpose in the**  
15 **biennial state operating budget.**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL**

**BILL TITLE:** limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.

**DATE:** February 9, 2022

**LOB ROOM:** 207

**MOTIONS:** **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Moved by Rep. Cordelli

Seconded by Rep. A. Lekas

Vote: 10-8

**CONSENT CALENDAR: NO**

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Melissa Litchfield, Clerk



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # 11684

BILL TITLE: limiting education freedom  
DATE: 2/9/22 account funding to budgeted  
LOB ROOM: 207 amounts

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Cordelli Seconded by Rep. Lukas Vote: 10-8

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1<sup>st</sup> year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

CONSENT CALENDAR: \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

Minority Report?  Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, author, Rep: Lunau Motion ~~OTPA~~  
OTP

Respectfully submitted: [Signature]  
Rep. Melissa Litchfield, Clerk



2022 SESSION

Education

Bill #: 1684 Motion: ITL AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 2/9/22

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

Rep. Luneau, Merr. 10  
February 8, 2022  
2022-0578h  
10/04

Amendment to HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL

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4 ~~[any]~~ grants or transfers of funds authorized under this chapter ~~[is]~~ **are** hereby appropriated to the  
5 department from the education trust fund created under RSA 198:39. The governor is authorized to  
6 draw a warrant from the education trust fund to satisfy the state's obligation under this section.  
7 Such warrant for payment shall ~~[be issued regardless of the balance of funds available in the~~  
8 ~~education trust fund. If the balance in the education trust fund, after the issuance of any such~~  
9 ~~warrant, is less than zero, the comptroller shall transfer sufficient funds from the general fund to~~  
10 ~~eliminate such deficit. The commissioner of the department of administrative services shall inform~~  
11 ~~the fiscal committee and the governor and council of such balance. This reporting shall not in any~~  
12 ~~way prohibit or delay the distribution of any grant or transfer of funds authorized under this~~  
13 ~~chapter]~~ **not exceed \$8,096,916 for fiscal year 2022 and \$9,483,476 for fiscal year 2023, and in**  
14 **subsequent fiscal years shall not exceed the amounts appropriated for such purpose in the**  
15 **biennial state operating budget.**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL**

**BILL TITLE:**    **limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.**

**DATE:**        **January 12, 2022**

**LOB ROOM:**    **207**                            **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:    2:17pm**

**Time Adjourned:     3:15pm**

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

**Bill Sponsors:**

**Rep. Luneau**                                    **Rep. Myler**

**TESTIMONY**

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

**\*Rep. Luneau - Prime Sponsor**

- Hopkinton/Concord 17% of students came from public schools
- Concerned that EFA budgeted amounts have been exceeded.

**Rep. Lekas**

- Aren't home schooled parents taxpayers?
- Aren't home schooled students actually saving the local districts money.
- With state 120 million surplus, why take away from children who could not get an adequate education in the public school system

**Rep.. Ford**

- Question: Was re: HB 607 - different bill?

**Rep. Cordelli**

- Does the Cap include money to public schools being tapered off? How about those that have already been approved for an EFA?

**Rep. Moffett**

- Has Rep. Luneau given any thought to hold to "sever" students from the program?

**Rep. Luneau**

- Has not, but would like to work with Committee to figure it out.

**Rep. Lekas**

- Has objections to everyone in the state utilizing this? Isn't it our job to provide an adequate education.

**Rep. Luneau**

- Obligation to "cherish public schools"

**Rep. Lekas**

- Questioning definition of public?

**Rep. Woodcock**

- Where does deficit for funding come from?

**Rep. Luneau**

- The State's general fund is not the state's education fund.
- Alicia Houston - representing herself
- In opposition
- One size learning does not fit all. Parent shared a personal testimonial without EFS's Children Scholarship Fund.
- Her children cannot access the schooling that they need as individuals.

**Rep. Cordelli**

- Question: 70/30 split that MS Houston was referring to.

**Caitlin Davis - NHDOE**

- Just here as needed if folks have questions

**Kara Maynard -**

- On behalf of self
- Opposed to bill
- EFA's have helped to get children computers and supplies needed. Shared a very personal testimonial about her family. Appreciates public schools but EFA's are imperative to her family.

**Lea Maynard - Child testimony**

- Opposed to bill
- Passing this bill will "take education away from kids"
- Not all children can attend public and private schools

**Matt Southerton - CSF**

- Here as a resource

**Shalimar Encarnacion - CSF Resource**

- Neutral

**Rep. Luneau**

- Has outdated information, number is a little under 50% and not 17%.
- Education Trust Fund has 3 billion dollars and you are discussing 8 million.
- This is a retroactive bill - approximately 70% of funds have already been awarded .
- Do we go back to family for money. How do we tell students that they have been eliminated. In order to be eligible for an EFA you have to be eligible for public schools in NH.
- The data we have is very very preliminary for a revolutionary program that was launched so quickly.

**Shalimar E.**

- We are already beyond the Cap, how to expect those below the poverty level to pay this back.
- They also have had children that deal with racism and bullying in their schools.
- Testimonial: 3:04pm Child bullied while being recorded with a teacher watching - child's head repeatedly stomped on.
- Due to EFA's - this child is no longer in that school system.

**Rep. Woodcock**

- Questioning how numbers derived
- Can committee get a breakdown of grade levels receiving EFA's

**Matt Southerton**

- Will get this information to the Committee

**Brian Hawkins - NEA-NH**

- In favor of bill, supports Rep. Luneau's status

**Rep. Lekas**

- With uncertainties with something like that - How would we come up with a number?

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Michelle Litchfield





# House Remote Testify

## Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB1684 on 2022-01-12

Support: 17 Oppose: 0 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Anastasia, Patricia	Londonderry, NH patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/7/2022 3:17 PM
Tentarelli, Liz	Newbury, NH LWVNewHampshire@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	League of Women Voters NH	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 1:28 PM
Bracy, Sue	Dunbarton, NH marysuebracy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 2:05 PM
Wilkerson, Maribeth	Pelham, NH maribeth.wilkerson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 2:08 PM
Bourgeois, Amy	Concord, NH about@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 2:14 PM
Page, Ashley	Kingston, NH Ashleypage29@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/9/2022 2:16 PM
Sandy, Leo	Chesterfield, NH lsandy@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 2:26 PM
Ballard, Larry	Amherst, NH larryballard@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 3:47 PM
BURLINGAME, TERRY	GILMANTON IRON WORKS, NH mexicananh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 4:14 PM
Roos-Unger, Ellen	Amherst, NH eroosunger@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 4:14 PM
Frye, Kim	Nashua, NH kimfrye@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 6:31 PM
Champigny, Sarah	Brookline, NH sadiebb134@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 7:27 PM
Champigny, Kevin	Brookline, NH kbchampigny@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 7:28 PM



Ayers, Deborah	Madison, NH waterrocksky@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 8:21 PM
Stanley, John	Littleton, NH John.stanley212@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 8:31 PM
Damon, Claudia	Concord, NH cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/9/2022 11:50 PM
Cecchetti, Lynda	Straffors, NH lcecc92017@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 6:51 AM
LaForce, Marc	Rollinsford, NH mll@alumni.unh.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 7:08 AM
Hill, Bonnie	South Sutton, NH hillbonnie@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 8:56 AM
Geary, Fiona	Northwood, NH fionamaegeary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:33 AM
Devore, Gary	Pembroke, NH torin_asheron@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:50 AM
Jones, Andrew	Pembroke, NH arj11718@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:50 AM
Heath, Mary	Manchester, NH m.heath@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Manchester	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 10:44 AM
Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 11:03 AM
Cicerchi, Renee	Strafford, NH rcicerchi@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 11:36 AM
Currier, Dorothy	Concord, NH dorocurr@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 12:51 PM
Howland, Curtis	Manchester, NH howland@priss.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 1:06 PM
Cote, Lois	Manchester, NH lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 2:31 PM
Istel, Claudia	Acworth, NH cistel79@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 2:50 PM
Lenz, Elaine	Meriden, NH eglenz@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 4:19 PM
Reeves, Rene	Peterborough, NH renerreeves@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 5:56 PM

GRIER, CYBELE	rye, NH cybelegrier@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 6:01 PM
Moulton, Candace	Manchester, NH candaceleighm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 6:24 PM
Almy, Susan	Lebanon, NH susan.almy@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 6:37 PM
Podlipny, Ann	Chester, NH apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 6:58 PM
Banfield, Ann Marie	North Hampton, NH Banfieldannmarie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 7:35 PM
Parker, Toni	Weare, NH savedthrufaith99@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 8:06 PM
COFFIN, MEREDITH	CANDIA, NH meredithleavitt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 8:14 PM
Lynch, Chrisinda	Concord, NH cmmelynych@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 8:24 PM
Moore, Susan	Franconia, NH susan.moore.franconia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:01 PM
Hakken-Phillips, Mary	Hanover, NH Mhp4nhrep@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:33 PM
Feren, Elizabeth	Manchester, NH slferen@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 9:37 PM
Foster, Deb	Dunbarton, NH debhfooster@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/10/2022 9:41 PM
Pauer, Rep. Diane	Brookline, NH diane.pauer@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 10:09 PM
Dulac, Nancy	Brookline, NH Nancyd8338@aol.cm	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/10/2022 11:49 PM
Scaer, Beth	Nashua, NH bscaer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 12:06 AM
Rich, Cecilia	Somersworth, NH cecilia.rich@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:54 AM
Torpey, Jeanne	Concord, NH jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 5:54 AM
DeStefano, Susan	Derry, NH suedestefano@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 6:56 AM

Hamer, Heidi	Manchester, NH heidi.hamer@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:41 AM
Meuse, David	Portsmouth, NH David.Meuse@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Rockingham 29	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:47 AM
White, Raymond	Bedford, NH ray@raywhiteforsenate.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 8:01 AM
Boyle, Cynthia	Exeter, NH owlboyle@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:03 AM
Senier, Siobhan	Epping, NH siobhansenier2020@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:12 AM
Davidson, Suellen	Hollis, NH suellendavidson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:23 AM
Dumont, Rick	Manchester, NH Rdumont1@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:28 AM
Koehler, Barbara	Moultonborough, NH barb.koehler@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 9:34 AM
Lewis, Elizabeth	Nashua, NH ecop.lewis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:43 AM
bicksler, Harriet	Center Tuftonboro, NH hbicksler39@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 9:44 AM
Love, Rep.David	Derry, NH davidlove4rep@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Rockingham 6	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 10:13 AM
Dunham, Bonnie	Merrimack, NH Bsdunham12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 10:29 AM
Kelley, Matthew	Moultonborough, NH mkell2249@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 10:38 AM
Rettew, Annie	Concord, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 10:39 AM
Robertson, Janet	Gilford, NH oldtown@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 10:48 AM
Smith, Julie	Nashua, NH cantdog@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 10:52 AM
Bouchard, Donald	MANCHESTER, NH donaldjbouchard@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 10:54 AM
Moccia, Lianne	LEBANON, NH lianne.moccia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 11:06 AM

Oxenham, Lee	Plainfield, NH leeoxenham@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 11:33 AM
Mackie, Danielle	Nashua, NH daniellenuzzo70@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 11:55 AM
Weston, Joyce	Plymouth, NH jweston14@roadrunner.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:01 PM
Frew, Jerome	Concord, NH jerry@nhsaa.org	A Lobbyist	NHSAA	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:01 PM
Entrekin, Brad	Manchester, NH Brad.Entrekin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 1:09 PM
Koch, Helmut	Concord, NH helmut.koch.2001@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:11 PM
Willing, Maura	Concord, NH Maura.Willing@Comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:12 PM
Ahlberg, Ingrid	Newmarket, NH inkynnh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:12 PM
Koch, Laurie	Concord, NH kochlj@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:16 PM
Mott-Smith, Wiltrud	Loudon, NH wmottsm@worldpath.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:25 PM
Weiner, Stephanie	Lancaster, NH sjweiner03@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:28 PM
Brickett, Jane	Lancaster, NH silofarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:30 PM
Coon, Kate	Peterborough, NH kate2coon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:41 PM
Dresser, Sarah	Hanover, NH dresser.sarah@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:45 PM
Siegart, Diane	Thornton, NH dsiegart@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:47 PM
DEBOURKE, SHEANA	Merrimack, NH SHEANAALANNA@HOTMAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 1:48 PM
Sanchez, Ignacio	Bedford, NH igsanchez87@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 1:56 PM
Tucker, Katherine	Wilmot, NH katherine.s.tucker@valley.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 2:14 PM

Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 3:06 PM
Telerski, Laura	Nashua, NH Laura.Telerski@Leg.State.NH.US	An Elected Official	Hillsborough 35	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 3:24 PM
Hughes, Corry	Jefferson, NH corryhughes@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 3:29 PM
Demars, Michael	Claremont, NH mdemars@ccimanged.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 3:50 PM
Grossi, Anne	Bedford, NH adgrossi7982@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 4:06 PM
Allard, Linda	Exeter, NH lindaallard@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:15 PM
Callaway, Barbara	Hanover, NH bcallaway65@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 4:21 PM
Allard, Avery	Exeter, NH averyallard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:21 PM
Allard, Connor	Exeter, NH connorallard@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:22 PM
Brandano, Al	Kensington, NH Silver42211@Yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:23 PM
Gall, Orsolya	Windham, NH orsolya.gall80@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:37 PM
Thate, Mary	Bedford, NH mpthate@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:42 PM
Allard, Dave	Exeter, NH daveallard@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:45 PM
Dickey, Daniel	Bedford, NH Dgd@sum.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 4:56 PM
Allard, Margaret	Portsmouth, NH peggyallard41@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 5:31 PM
Dontonville, Roger	Enfield, NH rdontonville@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 5:59 PM
Mitchell, Geoffrey	Exeter, NH Gkmitchell@brantenergy.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 5:59 PM
Allard, David	Exeter, NH daveallard@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 6:17 PM

Camarota, Hon. Linda Rea	Bedford, NH repcamarota@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 6:28 PM
Bergeron, Joseph	Nashua, NH joebergeron97@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 6:41 PM
FRIEDRICH, ED	Loudon, NH erfriedrich@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 6:46 PM
Yen, Lidia	Pembroke, NH lyen@afsc.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 6:59 PM
Ciatto, Susan	Mont Vernon, NH susan.ciatto@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:00 PM
Black, Matthew	Mont Vernon, NH immsb1138@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:01 PM
DeMark, Richard	Meredith, NH demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:06 PM
Zaenglein, Barbara	AMHERST, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:11 PM
Zaenglein, Eric	Amherst, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:12 PM
Kelly, Fran	Amherst, NH fr.kelly01@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:18 PM
Falk, Cheri	Wilton, NH falk.cj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:19 PM
Falk, Stephen	Wilton, NH Falkfinewoodworking@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:23 PM
Barassi, Tina	Brookline, NH Tinams1012@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 7:28 PM
Robbins, Ann	Sanbornville, NH cpr55@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:42 PM
Bryant, Marlise	Hollis, NH marlisehome@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:44 PM
Bryant, Michael	Hollis, NH bryantmike322@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 7:47 PM
Proctor, Gail	Wilton, NH Hedgeworth16@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 8:01 PM
Pompeo, Tara	Amherst, NH rawpomp@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:13 PM

M Clark, Denise	Milford, NH denise.m.clark03055@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:19 PM
Merchant, Rep. Gary	Claremont, NH gary.merchant@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:37 PM
Liberman, Sheryl	Merrimack, NH saml54@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 8:56 PM
Richman, Susan	Durham, NH susan7richman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:10 PM
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:33 PM
Rahilly, Monica	Londonderry, NH monira4@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 9:40 PM
Reed, Barbara	North Swanzey, NH BDRreed74@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:43 PM
Petrusewicz, Carol	Rochester, NH Clmcc2befree@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 9:44 PM
Cecchetti, Richard	STRAFFORD, NH rcecc@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:45 PM
Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 9:45 PM
Waitte, Kelly	Northwood, NH mkwaitte@protonmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 10:41 PM
chase, wendy	rollinsford, NH wendy.chase@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/11/2022 10:42 PM
Blanchard, Rita	Hopkinton, NH himdmom@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/11/2022 11:31 PM
Doherty, David	Pembroke, NH ddoherty0845@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 7:39 AM
Gordon, Laurie	Weare, NH lmgord23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 7:46 AM
perez, maria	milford, NH mariaeli63@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 7:48 AM
Reardon, Donna	Concord, NH Bugs42953@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 7:56 AM
Reardon, John	Concord, NH Bugs42953@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 8:00 AM

Gordon, Margaret	Weare, NH Megordon@plymouth.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 8:09 AM
Schmidlein, Allison	Mont Vernon, NH aschmidlein@tiac.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 8:32 AM
Rosenberger, Teresa	Manchester, NH trosenberger@bssn.com	A Lobbyist	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 8:36 AM
Howes, Deb	Bow, NH president@aft-nh.org	A Lobbyist	American Federation of Teachers - NH	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 8:38 AM
Brennan, Nancy	Weare, NH burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:11 AM
St John, Michelle	Hollis, NH stjohnmichelle@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:11 AM
Noble, Kristin	Bedford, NH kristin_noble1@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 9:14 AM
Hampton, Doris	Canterbury, NH dandmhamp38@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:37 AM
Grossman, Kathy	Hollis, NH Kathy@grossmangizmos.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:41 AM
Cahill, Atinuke	Newmarket, NH atinukecahill@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:51 AM
Potvin, Shana	BEDFORD, NH shanapotvin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:53 AM
Bunker, Lisa	Exeter, NH lisabunkernh@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself and the town of Exeter	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 9:58 AM
Kelble, Janice	Hooksett, NH Jkreflection@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:00 AM
Tilli-Pauling, Marianne	Amherst, NH m.tillipauling@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:08 AM
Mattlage, Linda	Concord, NH l.mattlage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:14 AM
Raspiller, Cindy	Mont Vernon, NH raspicl@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:39 AM
Brown, Howard	Mont Vernon, NH hobro39@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:43 AM
Tilli-Pauling, Nigel	Amherst, NH N.tillipauling@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 10:51 AM



Roddy, Mark	Hollis, NH markr@hollistech.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 11:08 AM
Anderson, Violet	Manchester, NH vimanderson@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 11:11 AM
Woods, Renia	Bow, NH renia.woods1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 11:33 AM
Kiefner, Robert	Concord, NH rskiefner@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 11:48 AM
Stinson, Benjamin	Concord, NH benrkstinson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 12:10 PM
DeRosa, Tom	Bedford, NH tom@bfreshconsulting.com	A Lobbyist	yes. every kid.	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 12:52 PM
Scott, Sarah	Dover, NH sscott@afphq.org	A Lobbyist	Americans for Prosperity New Hampshire	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 1:31 PM
Cantwell, Kara	NASHUA, NH kara.cantwell8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 1:58 PM
Pennington, Jill	Manchester, NH msjillpennington@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 2:21 PM
Pugh, Barbara	Amherst, NH barbara.pugh@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 3:20 PM
Metae, Mark	Hollis, NH stevens113@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 3:29 PM
Cates, Tammy	Nashua, NH tjcates@eagleswind.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 3:42 PM
Cates, William	Nashua, NH wcatesjr@eagleswind.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 3:46 PM
Cates, Bethany	Nashua, NH brcates99@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 3:51 PM
Cates, Tyler	Nashua, NH xtylercatesx@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 3:54 PM
Cates, Sahriah	Nashua, NH sahriah@sahriah.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 3:58 PM
Brown, Mary	Franklin, NH fambrown18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 3:59 PM
Enos, Liz	Litchfield, NH lzvici@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 4:04 PM

Culliton, Penny	Temple, NH pculliton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	1/12/2022 5:14 PM
Griffin, Amy	Loudon, NH Nhkick@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	1/12/2022 9:05 PM

**Archived:** Tuesday, February 15, 2022 11:45:34 AM

**From:** Fen

**Sent:** Monday, February 14, 2022 4:24:27 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Subject:** Committee Legislation

**Importance:** Normal

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Members of the Committee,

I write to you concerning the following education bills:

HB1283

HB1683

HB1115

HB1355

HB1684

First, the opposition of [HB1283](#), sponsored by one of your committee members David Luneau. This bill is another example of the multitude of taxes levied against citizens of New Hampshire. This money is not the state's money to dole out, this money began as money earned by tax payers and is being given back to them, that is all. So, to say that they now need to be taxed again as additional income is just unfounded. This isn't a hand out, it is a return of property to its rightful owner and undermines the entire purpose of the education freedom accounts which should be wholly about the child and their unique education. I also find it interesting that Rep. Luneau has decided to sponsor this bill given that he has made comments regarding the American Institutes for Research on school funding in New Hampshire. From what I read, Rep. Luneau's comments seem to support the findings of issues within the current funding in New Hampshire. So, why propose a bill penalizing anyone for choosing alternative schooling, especially those in underprivileged communities, by taxing them again for money that was theirs to begin with? Specifically, the report states "New Hampshire's current system of funding is not working for large segments of New Hampshire's students and taxpayers. Specifically, communities with higher poverty rates and lower property wealth are doubly penalized under New Hampshire's current system," & "Students in these communities, on average, receive fewer resources in the form of funding than students in wealthier communities. Taxpayers in these communities do their best to provide for their children, often levying higher local education property taxes than residents of wealthier communities. Inequities also manifest themselves in outcomes." So who is benefiting from this bill? Although I believe that the education freedom account should extend to all citizens and simply come in the form of a tax credit or reduction in taxes for the span of the child's education, there is a cap on who can access these accounts, which is lower than the median income for the entire state of New Hampshire. With all that being said, I also oppose [HB1683](#) for many of the same reason.

An additional bill I oppose is [HB1115](#) simply for the fact that there is absolutely no reason why expectations should be any different for those utilizing the education freedom account. Each family should be able to choose their own curriculum and should be able to maintain a portfolio instead of being forced to take a standardized test. There is mountains of evidence showing that standardized tests do not adequately demonstrate knowledge of a subject, it's simple regurgitation of facts memorized over time. They don't account for familial traditions, background, socioeconomic status, or a multitude of other details that could effect answers on these exams. If you truly valued diversity you could understand that diversity of thought and experience can be beneficial and everyone should not be forced in to a cookie cutter personality and education.

In addition, so my intensions are not misconstrued, I am opposed to [HB1355](#) simply because reporting someone for investigation without evidence is unethical and will only lead to numerous false claims against those rightfully utilizing their own money. I will submit a formal letter for opposition prior to the hearing.

Lastly, I am opposed to HB1684 entirely, even with amendments made. This bill removes any accountability from public schools and those who run them. As I pointed out, it is clear that there are disparities in access and outcomes of education across the state of New Hampshire, certainly the majority of the United States. With that being said, would you support The Home Depot continuing to receive your money even when their service and product did not support the needs of their customer? Should Eversource continue to bill me monthly if their lines were always down and there were blackouts in the middle of winter every year? How about Pre-K or Universities? Should those institutions be held accountable for poor performance and outcomes? I'm sure we can all agree that they should, so what changes with the public schools? The money should follow the student 100%. If the product in the public schools is great, which it can be in some areas, then there is no cause for concern, right? By holding public schools accountable they will strive to improve to win back families and students. I would also like to point out that the committee should considering an amendment or other legislative action to limit the salaries of superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators, and facilities managers who are all making well over \$100,000 per year (most superintendents are averaging above \$150,000 a year) while teachers at all levels are averaging \$50-60,000 a year and are rating local schools districts average at best (2-3 out of 5 on sites like glassdoor). So, if teachers are so important why are they making 1/2 to 1/3 the amount of administrators? Clearly, if the role of a superintendent is to lead their respective districts in achieving their vision they are either failing at doing so or their vision is for underachieving students and unhappy staff, either way they are unfit for the position and that salary should be allocated to teachers instead of raising taxes on citizens and penalizing them for accessing education freedom.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I am a very concerned parent in New Hampshire and take it personally when politicians attempt to dictate what I can and can't do with my children's education and upbringing. If any of the committee members are parents I am sure you can relate that you would do anything for the wellbeing of your child. Many of you may actually send your children to alternative schools.

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:38 AM  
**From:** Doris and Mark Hampton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 8:45:31 AM  
**To:** ~House Education Committee  
**Subject:** Executive Session  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Education Committee,

Before you vote on HB 1516 and 1684 I want to voice my support for both bills before you.

Thank you.  
Doris Hampton  
Canterbury

Dear Education Committee,

A couple of weeks ago the United States Surgeon General published their findings on youth mental health for the country. The published statement is a wake up call to our state and the rest of the nation. While mental health challenges have continued to escalate among youth for the past decade the pandemic has only exacerbated the issues that most adolescents face today.

Of those who have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder, 75% have their first episode by age 24. 30% of students reported feeling depressed in the past year. 50% of students reported feeling overwhelmingly anxious in the past year. There was a 36% increase in seriously considered suicidal thoughts, and a 44% increase in having a suicide plan. Between 2007 and 2018, suicide rates among youth ages 10-24 in the U.S. increased by 57%.

In New Hampshire suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages 10-34. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for college students. Seeking help in the Granite State has children and college students waiting 2 to 3 weeks for inpatient treatment. The average number of young people waiting in the ER has increased to 23, quadrupling the number that was averaging 6 before the pandemic.

On October 19th the American Academy of Pediatrics also declared a state of emergency around mental health for children and their families.

As of June 2021 covid has claimed the lives of many parents and guardians affecting the lives and mental health of 140,000 youth nationwide.

**“The pandemic has most heavily affected those who were already vulnerable, such as youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities, racial and ethnic minority youth, LBGTQ+ youth, youth from families with low incomes, youth in rural communities and immigrant households, youth involved in the justice, foster care, and/or child welfare systems, and runaway youth and youth experiencing homelessness.” - Surgeon General’s Publication**

I think we all understand and recognize as one of the nation's oldest states working to attract young families that we need to focus on services that address the needs of the younger generation, some of which includes mental healthcare. That is why we are asking for your help in addressing the lack of mental healthcare in New Hampshire.

How will this law help? For one thing it does not cost the state any money. It helps set a realistic view of the educational big picture. It connects young people with their peers to manage their fears of their future. By having this community it helps students build independent living skills at a young age, some who have left home or lived without their families for the very first time. Teaches young people how to schedule downtime and coping skills. This is when students start exploring and answering "Who am I?" and connects them with like minded classmates struggling with similar issues.

Over the last decade several universities and states have adopted peer support mental health programs. This idea is not new even though this might be the first time you're hearing of it. Unfortunately, up to 75% of struggling students are reluctant to seek help. This increases the risk of harmful outcomes, such as dropping out of college, poor academic performance, suicide and substance abuse. Knowing all this, can we afford to not pass a bill like this? Again, costs us nothing in state funds, promotes self awareness and survival skills, and teaches students how to cope on their own. We need to try something and provide our children with more resources than we currently have, so why not this? Please vote Ought To Pass on HB 1648.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Representative Nicole Klein Knight

Hillsborough County District 11

#### Resources/ Professional Sources

Ken Norton the Director of Nami NH's latest article

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/opinion/columns/2021/11/11/ken-norton-mental-health-state-emergency-children-adolescents/6372127001/>

On Oct. 19, the American Academy of Pediatrics and other national organizations declared a state of emergency around the mental health of children, adolescents, and their families.

Link here:

<https://publications.aap.org/aapnews/news/17718/AAP-AACAP-CHA-declare-national-emergency-in>

What parents need to know about college students and depression

<https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/speaking-of-health/college-students-and-depression>

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:41 AM

**From:** Donna F.

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 4:01:13 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Subject:** HB 1684/Vote NO

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Leaders:

Families need to have the freedom of choice for schools since not all children have the same needs.

I strongly oppose limiting education freedom funding.

Please oppose this HB 1684 bill.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donna Ferrantello

84 Woodland Ave.

Keene, NH 03431



**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:44 AM

**From:** [montanamargie1@aol.com](mailto:montanamargie1@aol.com)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:26:20 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Subject:** HB1684-FNAL I oppose as we need more choice to make education better overall. Some competition would be good & one size doesn't fit everyone

**Importance:** Normal

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**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:38 AM  
**From:** [sgderoy@gmail.com](mailto:sgderoy@gmail.com)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 8:28:56 AM  
**To:** ~House Education Committee  
**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A—L -Opposed  
**Importance:** Normal

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Please accept my email as testimony on bill HB1684-FN-A-L as Opposed.

**Why:** (1) Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential.

(2) This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs... and it is important to remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student in public schools.

Regards,  
Susan DeRoy  
New Durham, NH

Regards  
Susan

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:42 AM

**From:** [Christine Seuss](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:22:43 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee members,

As a grandparent who raised a grandchild with multiple issues, I respectfully ask that you oppose this bill. It is so important for each child to have educational options available to them. I know many parents during this season of my life that this was critical to help each child to develop to their potential. Education is not a cookie cutter template for each child while many do well in a public school setting there is a growing number of children who do not.

Thank you for listening.

Chris Seuss  
Hampstead, NH

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:44 AM  
**From:** [monica d](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:33:21 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A-L  
**Importance:** Normal

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**HB1684-FN-A-L -limits education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION Date:** 2/9/22, **Time:** 10:00AM, **Location:** Room 205-207, Legislative Office Building (33 N State St., Concord)

**Committee Name:** House Education

Please **OPPOSE** this Bill

**Why:** (1) Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential.

(2) This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs... and it is important to remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student in public schools.

Monica Dean

Hampstead, NH

Sent from my iPad

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:39 AM

**From:** [Deb Roux](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 9:14:50 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Hello,

Please oppose this bill. Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED.

You are our voice for our children. Please give them the chance to get the education they deserve.

Praying...

Thank you and God Bless,

Deb

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:41 AM

**From:** Sarah McClennen

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 4:24:24 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Subject:** I Oppose HB 1684

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members,

Please oppose HB 1684. Education Freedom Accounts are essential to children, especially those children with unique learning styles. This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. The cost of education paid for with EFAs is much less than the cost per child in a public school.

Please make the resources necessary for children with special learning styles, they need all the help they can get. In addition, with the right environment, these kids can reach their full potential and become wonderful members of society as adults.

Thank you,

Sarah

Sarah P McClennen Certified Advanced Rolfer, LMT, CST

9 Johnson Lane Suite 102

Andover, NH 03216-3407

603-520-5247

sarah@feelpeaceful.com

feel peaceful

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:40 AM

**From:** [Taci Guven](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 4:49:50 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** Oppose HB 1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members,

**I urge you to oppose to HB 1684-FN-A-L, limits education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.**

Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential and provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential.

The cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student in public schools.

Thank you

Taci Guven

Windham, NH

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:43 AM

**From:** [Matt](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:56:08 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** Oppose HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Hi,

Please oppose HB1684-FN-A-L and do not limit the EFA amounts since they are significantly less than public school tuition and is a money grab to limit educational choice, in stark contrast to what education freedom ought to be.

Sincerely,

Matthew Pikus

New London, NH Resident



**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:45 AM  
**From:** Gregory Carter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:16:14 PM  
**To:** ~House Education Committee  
**Subject:** Oppose HB1684-FN-A-L  
**Importance:** Normal

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To the Members of the House Education Committee,

Please **OPPOSE** this Bill, HB1684-FN-A-L

(1) Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential in education.

(2) This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs... and it is important to remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student in public schools.

This bill is an attack on our children's opportunity to receive the best education possible. Vote No!

Best regards,

-Greg Carter

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:42 AM

**From:** [Anthony Ferrantello](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:47:06 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** Oppose HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Please oppose this Bill. This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs... and it is important to remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student in public schools

Please oppose this Bill. Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential.

Thank You

Anthony Ferrantello

Keene, NH

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:42 AM

**From:** [Kathy Mayo](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 3:48:09 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Cc:** [Kathy Mayo](#)

**Subject:** OPPOSE: HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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**Title:** limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.

Good Afternoon Committee Members:

Respectfully I ask that you do not pass this. I would like to see every child be given the opportunity to thrive wherever their parents decide, since they know how their child(ren) learn best. I firmly believe that our tax money to support the education of the future generations should be allotted to the parents and not an institution decided by the state/government.

Thank you very much,  
Kathy Mayo

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:40 AM  
**From:** [Micha Larsin](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 7:53:24 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** OPPOSING HB1684-FN-A-L  
**Importance:** Normal

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My name is Corrinne Sargent. I have a 4.5 year old that will be 5 in June. Our daughter is completely healthy has not so much ever having a fever. She had Covid in Nov. of 2020 and barely had any symptoms. She has natural immunity already and there are not enough studies on long term effects on reproductive issues in girls with this vaccine. We don't even get her the flu shot but she has all her other mandated vaccines to date. This is completely taking away the parents' right to make decisions for our children. You are forcing it on us for no reason!!! Children are not dying. You are going to force parents to tutor at home and all public schools and teachers will suffer. 30% of parents are for this and 70% are against, how can you try and pass this without parents voting???

I can't believe this is the fight I would be fighting for my 5 year old.

We WILL not get the shot for our daughter and are completely against this! It's not even mandated for adults, how can it be for our children? I am not anti vaccine... I am vaccinated against Covid. But I do not agree with this vaccine being mandated for our children!! Way too soon!! Why the rush? Numbers are dropping and it's proven to be more of a cold!

Masks don't work. Study after study say that. Vaccines stop death allegedly, but not transmission at all! At best, only the kn-95 mask works some... it's up to 10%. So at best, when a kn95 mask is worn and changed out routinely during the day, you can be up to 10% safer from transmission.

Corrinne Sargent  
Chad Sargent

Thank you, cori

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:37 AM

**From:** [Alfred Lafferty](#)

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:11:37 AM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** Please OPPOSE HB 1684-FN-A-L.

**Importance:** Normal

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Thanks for your service to we the people. Praying for you. Al Lafferty longtime resident and voter  
Windham NH

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:39 AM

**From:** [Ken Eyring](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 7:56:36 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** Please Oppose HB1684

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Representatives,

Please vote to oppose HB1684 to ensure there will be enough money available for children who qualify for EFA accounts.

Being a former chairman of the Windham School Board, I am aware that not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill should be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children (who struggle in traditional public schools) to reach their maximum potential.

This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs, therefore making it more difficult for parents to find and afford an alternative education for their child. Please remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the average cost to educate a student in public schools.

Even if the cost were higher than a traditional public school education - I believe we owe it to each child to provide them with the opportunities that would best address their needs.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Ken Eyring

Windham

House Education Committee  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

January 8, 2020

Honorable Colleagues of the House Education Committee,

I write to you today in strong support of **HB 1648-FN** as the representative of a small town, Amherst, N.H., that has seen the incredible impact mental health wellness takes on a community both prior to the pandemic, and currently. As the chair of nearly 30 young legislators in New Hampshire, our caucus has heard from constituents across the state who are young, in school, and sometimes also working while in their high school, college or trade programs. Most recently, myself and several other elected officials in the House and Senate and the general community heard powerful first-hand accounts from high school and college students in Milford, N.H. about the impacts a lack of mental health resources has had on them and their communities. The message was painfully clear: young individuals who are developing their sense of self and personal identity seek out mental health peer support groups from those who are similarly poised to understand their generation, needs, and communities. Currently, peer support groups are sparse in learning communities throughout New Hampshire.

Many who live with mental illness often seek to begin their care and wellness journey with those who have shared and lived experiences with mental health illness. Peer Support groups are another tool that organizations like NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) support the implementation of.<sup>1</sup>

Similar to peer support opportunities that deal with SUD, those that deal with mental health illness provide an entry-point and anchor for those seeking and needing care. Recognizing this, the State of New Hampshire is trying to improve the level of support resources it has available for those living with mental illness too, but admittedly that has been slow to come and our state finds itself void of an appropriate amount of counseling providers and resources to deal with the crisis of mental healthcare in New Hampshire. I am constantly hearing from constituents citing months waiting for an intake appointment with a counselor or therapist, standing up peer support in college and university systems would help to begin meeting that need.

Currently, as of Jan. 11, 2022, 27 adults and 2 children await placement at a Dedicated Receiving Facilities in New Hampshire.<sup>2</sup> What this means is that our communities and constituents' needs are still largely un-met with regard to there being ample providers and community based mental health support, treatment and counseling providers and infrastructure and we must take urgent action to address the deficit in mental health care options.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nami.org/Support-Education/Mental-Health-Education/NAMI-Peer-to-Peer>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dcbcs/nhh/dfc-data.htm>

Nonetheless, when students are on campus, every opportunity for mental health wellness support needs to be made so that students have consistent educational, professional, and peer supported resources they need.

Though every person's lived experience is unique, the need for de-stigmatized support and care remains constant. As the relative of a family member who lives with mental illness, one that is profound and will require life-long treatment, their journey to living successfully with mental illness began when they were just 18 when self-harm, and many other behaviors presented themselves and continued into college. Had my family member had an on campus mental health peer support group available to them, the opportunity for a well connected support system about the importance of consistent medications, communication with their mental health care providers and their school advisors would most certainly have been helpful while they attended classes, living on campus and preparing to enter the workforce.

Living with mental illness at a time when stress is already high and students are balancing academic and personal demands, a network of peer support that urges self-care and wellness on campuses would be instrumental in helping to provide mental health wellness resources in New Hampshire. I thank the committee for their time and urge the committee to support HB1648-FN, so that students across New Hampshire have an increased peer support system that helps de-stigmatize mental illness, and provides campuses with another resource for a person's journey to mental health wellness.

With Respect,

Representative Megan A. Murray  
Amherst, N.H. 03031



**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:52 AM

**From:** [Jon Daley](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 11:17:30 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** HB 1684

**Importance:** Normal

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I am concerned about HB 1684, in addition to other proposed bills this season. It appears that there are some who wish to kill off this valuable program by whatever means necessary.

As I understand it, HB 1684 will reduce the funding by \$4.7 million dollars, greatly reducing the opportunities for students across the state.

We have been a part of the EFA program this year and has made available a number of opportunities that we otherwise could not have afforded. I am strongly in opposition to this reduction in educational opportunities.

In addition, based on some articles written by members of this committee, it appears that some are unaware of how restricted these funds are, and how they can only be spent on educational items and not on lavish vacations, etc. In addition there are income-based limits, which also serves to limit the funds.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jon Daley  
Hillsboro, NH

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:52 AM  
**From:** [Kurt Martin](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:13:43 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Wednesdays 1/12/22 Bills  
**Importance:** Normal

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I am in support of Bills HB 1624 and HB1655 and do not support Bill HB 1684  
Thank you for your Time

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:52 AM  
**From:** [Valerie Martin](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 9:04:14 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Wednesday January 12 bills  
**Importance:** Normal

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As a New Hampshire resident I **support** the bills HB 1624 and HB 1655.  
I **do not** support bill HB 1684.  
Thank you for your time

Sincerely,  
A concerned resident

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:53 AM  
**From:** [Michael Demars](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 4:05:04 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Please vote ITL on HB1684  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee members,

Concerning HB-1684 "limiting education freedom account funding", I live in Claremont where I run a small business and have two high school age boys.

I am concerned about the cost of public education, the results we are told to accept, and the curriculum changes that seem bent on political indoctrination vs actually teaching our kids the core subjects needed to be productive workers in the future. For some families the option to take their kids to a home schooling or charter school alternative is the best option and funding should be portable (as it has been this year) when that is their choice.

If enrollment in public schools is your concern then perhaps we should get to the root of the problems instead of trapping families that cannot afford private options.

I urge you to kill this bill by voting ITL.



Michael Demars  
President/Owner  
CCI Managed Services  
[Mdemars@ccimanged.com](mailto:Mdemars@ccimanged.com)  
603-542-2821

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:53 AM  
**From:** [Ann Marie Banfield](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 11, 2022 3:22:25 PM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** VOTE ITL on HB 1684  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Ann Marie Banfield and I have been working as a parental rights advocate, focused on academic excellence in our public schools, for about two decades. I am unable to make the public hearing but would like to encourage you to vote ITL on HB1684. It is my understanding that if [HB1684](#) were to pass, that would cut the EFA program from 1865 children to 26 children this year.

I understand that any school choice program in the state of New Hampshire becomes a hot-button issue. I have to admit, this always surprises me. It seems logical that we would all focus on making our public schools the best in the nation. If they were the best, there would not be a big push for these school-choice programs. In the two decades of working on behalf of families in New Hampshire, I've never seen this kind of a push for more education options by parents. What does that tell you?

As an education researcher, I have found that the majority of parents want their children in their local public school. That means that we can serve families in our public schools because that's where they want to be. So what happens along the way to make so many families change their mind? There are a number of reasons that I hope someday, you will all prioritize as issues that need to be addressed.

From my research good parents want :

- 1) Academic excellence
- 2) A safe learning environment
- 3) A partnership with parents

That's it.

Some parents may have other areas that they want the schools to focus on, but those are the three areas that most parents want from their public school. I think if we worked together to address their concerns, and if administrators did the same, we could turn the tide away from the declining enrollment numbers. These are the three areas I've prioritized, and welcome any help by those who are equally passionate about improving our public schools.

That brings me to this proposed legislation. I have never seen the push for school choice options like I have seen over the past few years. There was a mass exodus from the public schools right after Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards were introduced. That initiative dumbed down the core academic classes that continue to plague our public schools.

Last year HB1558 was passed into law and appears to also be a problem when it comes to the safety within our public schools. With the on-size fits all MTSS initiative, teachers in Nashua, Manchester and other districts, are reporting an increase in behavior problems among the student population. I was fearful of this when behavior policies were watered down.

Parents have been cut out of the decisions on masks and school closures. They watched their children suffer academically and emotionally when the schools were closed. So when I see an attempt to limit their ability to find a good learning environment for their children, this deeply concerns me. I want those parents to keep their children in the public school, but I'll never turn my back on families that are in crisis.

That's what we have with HB 1684, an attempt to turn our back on children in crisis.

When you decide to prioritize improving our public schools, I am happy to work with you or anyone else. But until that happens, these families need help now.

I have never seen parental engagement in our schools like I am seeing today. Parents are frustrated by the social engineering, the lack of transparency, the dumbing down and many other issues inside our public schools. I am happy to help wade through those issues to work to improve the public schools, instead of watching them self-destruct.

This is not the time to force children to endure situations that cause them emotional problems. This is the time to help children in crisis, and then find ways to avoid those situations in the future. When you go back to the basics in public education, you will see the enrollment increase, and you will find parents who will fight for their public schools. That is what I'd like to see from these families, but you don't force them to endure a crisis situation, you offer them relief.

For these reasons I ask that you vote ITL on HB1684.

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:53 AM

**From:** [vickie vickie](#)

**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 3:35:12 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** HB 1684

**Importance:** Normal

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Good afternoon,

I am a Homeschool parent who is currently an EFA applicant. I am asking you to Please look at what you are doing? Our children WANT an education and for you to cut applicants is just going to put a bigger burden on families. These funds give us the tools to give our children the education they are all entitled too. This is our tax money that we should have a choice in to where we want to spend it. Apparently our Public school system is broken. I chose Homeschool to better my children without disruption. Please as my 3 children and myself along with a lot of other families are asking you to please keep the EFA program as it stands. We hope that you would consider the Best decision for not only our children. But also possibly yours, or a friends, grandchild, ect.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:53 AM

**From:** [Meg Ebba](#)

**Sent:** Monday, January 10, 2022 3:08:52 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** In regards to HB 1684

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for your bold choice to make New Hampshire first in the nation for supporting its underprivileged K-12 students with an innovative and comprehensive Educational Freedom Account! This groundbreaking program is helping lower-income families around the state experience incredible educational options. As the Educational Freedom Account funding is based on the "adequate education" concept, it does not make sense to change the structure or funding for the students currently enrolled. These disadvantaged students are finally able to access educational opportunities that were unreachable to them, and to pull the funding would devastate their progress. New Hampshire has finally found a unique, creative way to help children within a certain income bracket, and should be expanding the program and innovating more creative options like it. Let's lead the way forward, not backward!

Sincerely,

Meg Ebba  
Barrington, NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:16:53 AM

**From:** Daniel Richardson

**Sent:** Saturday, January 8, 2022 5:36:35 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Cc:** Tom Lanzara; David Luneau; Mel Myler

**Subject:** In Opposition to HB 1684 - limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts

**Importance:** Normal

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Ref: Jan 12, 2022 Meeting

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE -

I am writing in opposition to HB1684. This mean-spirited bill intends to rob families of the opportunity for educational freedom and choice. Without objective rationale, it would impose an arbitrary limit at a level insufficient to meet the anticipated public demand. EFA grants are the same as state base education adequacy grant to all school districts is roughly \$3,800 per child. This bill would fund as little as 38 student EFA statewide... hardly laughable.

The governor is authorized to draw a warrant from the education trust fund to satisfy the state's obligation and simultaneously meet other annual funding obligations limited by HB2. It is hardly necessary to hamper the chief executive in performing his duties with arbitrary limitations under his purview.

Please dismiss this bill as ITL with prejudice.

Daniel Richardson, Nashua NH

January 28th, 2022

To House Of Education Committee,

I am asking you to Oppose House Bill HB 1684 as it has been introduced. I am a parent of 3 children, one being disabled. We came out of the Public School system last year. The Reason why is because of many many reasons. 1. Being Safe in the schools. My son suffered medical events that were ignored. 2. My children have been physically abused and asked to view tapes. A teacher is always in front of the camera. 3. My oldest suffered assaults and threats of bodily harm by a parent and the child. 4. There is NO such thing as an IEP/504 or a child with a disability. They don't implement the services that need to be followed. IE: food being denied/thrown in trash 5. Discrimination: My child was overwhelmed with the racial violence, Racism she was asked to do assignment. She expressed to the teacher that she was overwhelmed. She was MADE to then do the assignment in a teachers WORDING/OPINION! 6. Discrimination/NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND: My son 3rd grade last year. Teacher stopped giving editing access to complete work, plus Harassment messages for camera to be on. 7. Accusations by the school prompting my child needed mental health evaluation. But past the school's evaluation. Accusing my child of suicide. (2019) which has caused my child to have Social Anxiety 8. Privacy Violation/Rights: unmuting my child's audio and listening in on inhome conversations. 9. Administrative: NO Communication to deal with issues. Forced Homeschooling by Superintendent. Also ignored a IEP referral from PCP for 5 months. 10. I've contacted the Administrative, School Board, NH DOE requesting meetings to come up with solutions to fix the issues. Again ignored. There is a severe lack in the Public Education System. As the years went on the more things got worse. Now I chose to Homeschool my kids as I was worried for their SAFETY, Well being, education, mental, physical, and emotional state for another year interrupted by Covid. I couldn't see my children going through another year of unstructured routine. I couldn't see my disabled son coming home in tears who was non verbal/partial verbal at the time with bruises, busted lip, telling me he was punched at school/on the bus. I don't have to worry about my son not getting emergency medical help when needed, or my daughter being threatened, abused, assaulted. Since Homeschooling my kids this year my children have been more confident in their work, socially, mentally. They have expressed to me that they are grateful that they feel safe now doing school at home. This is why the Educational Freedom Account is so important to my family. It helps make sure my children get the education they are entitled to and a FAPE! Every child deserves an education to be successful in society.

Thank you,  
Victoria Micheli

**Archived:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 11:15:53 AM

**From:** [Kathy Carter](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:29:28 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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House Education Committee Members,

I oppose HB1684-FN-A-L. Students all learn individually. Unfortunately public education cannot meet the needs of some students. These students do not thrive in the traditional school environment. I believe we want all of our New Hampshire children to have the best education possible. One that meets their individual needs. For some, limiting the amount of money available for EFA's would be devastating.

The cost of educating a student with an EFA account is less than what it costs to educate that same student in the public school so why limit the available funds?

I respectfully ask that you oppose this bill.

Thank you,

Kathy Carter  
Meredith, NH

**Archived:** Thursday, February 10, 2022 11:15:53 AM

**From:** [dallain@mail.com](mailto:dallain@mail.com)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 5:20:00 PM

**To:** ~House Education Committee

**Cc:** [dallain@mail.com](mailto:dallain@mail.com)

**Subject:** HB1684-FN-A-L

**Importance:** Normal

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Dear members of the House Education Committee, I oppose this bill and urge you to do the same. Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. Ed Freedom Accounts are essential. They provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential. Thank You for your time. David Allain

**Archived:** Friday, January 21, 2022 9:18:57 AM  
**From:** JAIMA WILDER  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022 10:12:27 AM  
**To:** ~House Education Committee  
**Subject:** VOTE ITL on HB1684  
**Importance:** Normal

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Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

My name is Jaima Wilder and I live in Hollis. I have five children, three that I homeschool and two that were attending Hollis/ Brookline Highschool. I encourage you to vote ITL on HB1684.

The school choice program has become increasingly more important to me in the past few months. I recently had my children removed from the highschool because they have refused a mask mandate. It was put in place during their winter break. We have never had one before now and the mandate was initiated by the superintendent based on a recommendation from the CDC. The superintendent Andrew Corey sent an email to the community and immediately put his email on autoreply. He would not communicate with parents until he came back from vacation three days after the students were in class masked (January 5<sup>th</sup>).

Since the summer I have requested a complete list of the resources/ curriculum so I could review the material.. I have been denied access to it. I have completed over six hours of volunteer training and been approved for volunteering. They will not give me a list of options. I was told the volunteering options were only available through the PSTA. My children have come home with several questionable materials. I requested to observe a class so I had a better idea of what was going on in the school. The superintendent informed me that I am not allowed to observe a class based on their contract with the teachers union and students privacy. When my children were sent home for two weeks along with other students from the school my daughter was failing almost every class. I never received an email from a teacher and have never had a one on one meeting with a teacher. The administration told me last week that I am not allowed to speak about the curriculum or resources I am concerned about with any teachers without an administrator present. I have been trying to educate myself on how to hold them accountable but feel as though I am fighting a losing battle. I see an indoctrination through CRT and SEL. The resources that they are using are far behind the lexicon reading level of the corresponding grade and they focus on their emotions instead of educating them. It is my job as a parent to train them and help them navigate through their mental, social, and emotional well being. My tax dollars pay for a school to educate them and I believed that was what I would get by enrolling my children there.

I am going to have my children finish the semester and than my plan is to homeschool them for the second half of the year. I would like to look into other options and feel that if you offer many school options it will encourage schools to have more transparency and a higher level of learning. School choice is so important right now in light of the fact the schools have absolutely no transparency and are acting as though they do not need or want parental engagement. Please protect the future of these children and vote ITL on HB1684.

Thank you for your help in advance and your continued diligence improving our educational system!

Jaima Wilder  
(603)809-1417  
Jwilder15@msn.com

**Archived:** Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9:31:43 AM

**From:** [kevin sicard](#)

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 2:40:14 PM

**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)

**Importance:** Normal

---

**HB1684-FN-A-L -limits education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION Date:** 2/9/22, **Time:** 10:00AM, **Location:** Room 205-207, Legislative Office Building (33 N State St., Concord)

**Committee Name:** House Education

Please **OPPOSE** this Bill

**Why:** (1) Not all children thrive in a traditional public school environment. That is why Education Freedom Accounts are essential - and why this Bill must be OPPOSED. EFA accounts provide opportunities for children to reach their maximum potential.

(2) This Bill will limit the amount of money available for EFAs. Every child deserves an education that meets their needs... and it is important to remember that the cost of education that is paid for with an EFA account is much less than the cost to educate a student Kevin Sicard

Hampstead, NH  
Kevin sicard  
Sent from my iPad



**AMERICANS FOR  
PROSPERITY®**  
**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

January 12, 2022

Thank you Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Committee for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is Sarah Scott and I'm the Director of Grassroots Operations with Americans for Prosperity-New Hampshire.

On behalf of Americans for Prosperity-New Hampshire and our activists all across the state, I urge you to oppose House Bill 1684, a bill which would restrict the Education Freedom Account program and force many students into a one size fits all education.

Since the creation of the program this past fall, over 1,800 students have taken advantage of Education Freedom Accounts to find an education that better fits their needs. This bill would restrict the budget for EFAs to only \$129,000 for 2022. Assuming each student is given a grant with an average of \$4,600, that would mean that only approximately 28 students would be able to participate in the EFA program. With at least 1,856 students currently participating, cutting the program to 28 students would mean that over 1,800 students would be forced out of the program and may not be able to stay at their school.

These students have begun the school year and in an already tumultuous time, being forced to leave a school that is working for them would cause significant hardship. We should be creating new avenues for students to customize their education and opportunities for families to find a learning environment that they feel safe and comfortable with, not forcing over 1,800 students back into a system that wasn't working for them.

We believe that empowering New Hampshire families with greater educational opportunities is critical to give every child the freedom to discover, develop, and apply their talents in order to find fulfillment and success in their lives.

It is for these reasons that we ask that you recommend this legislation as Inexpedient to Legislate and allow these families to choose the educational environment that fits their needs.

Sincerely,

Sarah Scott  
Director of Grassroots Operations  
Americans for Prosperity-New Hampshire

**Archived:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 9:42:15 AM  
**From:** [Colleen Ward-Scott](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022 9:19:30 AM  
**To:** [~House Education Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Bill 1684  
**Importance:** Normal

---

I oppose this bill. Please vote a nay for me

Sent from my iPhone



## HB 1684 holds EFAs to budgeted amounts

### **Budget \$129,000**

75% EFA students come directly from public schools

25% EFA students come from private and home schools

### **Actual \$8,096,000**

17% EFA students come directly from public schools

83% EFA students come from private and home schools

### Notes:

1. EFA students who come directly from public schools have no increase to state costs.
2. EFA students who come from private and home schools increase state costs. Therefore 83% of the \$8,096,000 is a new expense from the education trust fund.

ACTUAL

# Education Freedom Account Fact Sheet

	EFA Enrollment		EFA as % Of Statewide		Statewide Enrollment	
	#	\$	Students	Spend	Students	\$
Base Adequacy	1,635	6,191,189	1.0%	1.0%	160,715	634,282,370
Free and Reduced Price Meals	879	1,664,228	2.3%	1.9%	38,848	87,074,778
Special Education Aid	88	179,266	0.3%	0.3%	29,762	61,491,472
English Learner	81	60,010	1.7%	1.6%	4,641	3,754,740
3rd Grade Reading Non Proficient	3	2,223	0.1%	0.1%	2,482	2,085,841
Public Education Spending		\$ 8,096,916		0.2%		\$ 3,251,342,023
Public Education Cost Per Student		\$ 4,952				\$ 20,230

EFA Switcher Timeline		#	Subgroup	# of Students	% of Students	% in State
EFA switchers (2021)		280	Total EFA Enrollment	1,635		
COVID Switchers (2020)		220				
Pre-COVID Switchers (pre 2020)		204	Gender			
		704	Female	803	49%	51%
			Male	832	51%	49%
Percent switchers of total participants		43%	Race			
			American Indian or Alaskan	1	0%	>1%
			Asian or Pacific Islander	23	1%	>1%
			Black or African American	52	3%	1%
			Hispanic or Latino	130	8%	2%
			Multiple Races	80	5%	1%
			White	1,349	83%	93%
			Foster			
			Not Foster	1,631	100%	
			Foster	4	0%	
			Migrant			
			Not Migrant	1,631	100%	
			Migrant	4	0%	
			Special Education Aid			
			Not Eligible	1,547	95%	
			SpEd Eligible	88	5%	
			Free and Reduced Price Lunch			
			Not Eligible	756	46%	
			Eligible	879	54%	
			English Learner			
			Not Eligible	1,554	95%	
			Eligible	81	5%	

Grade	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Student Count	158	160	162	158	149	153	130	122	108	102	92	71	70	1635
% Student Count	10%	10%	10%	10%	9%	9%	8%	7%	7%	6%	6%	4%	4%	100%

Percent of Instruction Virtual for 2020-2021	Percent of students	Number of Students
<10%	15%	43
>10% - <40%	25%	70
>40% - <80%	34%	94
>80%	26%	73
	100%	280

New Hampshire Department of Education  
 Long-term Comprehensive Modeling Analysis  
 Education Freedom Accounts

Shared Cost Savings Model			21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
	19-20	20-21										
Public School Enrollment (w/out Preschool)	171,651	169,204	171,843	170,093	167,718	164,701	162,340	160,174	158,416	157,182	155,561	154,394
Pandemic Normalization Rate			-1.07%	-1.04%	-1.44%	-1.86%	-1.47%	-1.37%	-1.12%	-0.79%	-1.05%	-0.76%
Non-public Enrollment	15,823	16,294	15,654	15,490	15,267	14,983	14,762	14,561	14,398	14,284	14,134	14,027
Home School Enrollment	2,955	6,110	2,923	2,893	2,851	2,798	2,757	2,719	2,689	2,668	2,639	2,620
Total Number of New Hampshire K-12 Students	190,429	191,608	190,421	188,476	185,836	182,483	179,859	177,454	175,502	174,133	172,334	171,040
Pandemic Returner Factor		75%										
Percent of EFA Eligible Students		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Total Number of EFA Eligible Students	190,429		190,421	188,476	185,836	182,483	179,859	177,454	175,502	174,133	172,334	171,040
EFA Initial Adoption Rate			28	677	3,126	3,573	3,644	3,634	3,506	3,594	3,716	4,150
EFA Adoption Rate			0.01%	0.36%	1.68%	1.96%	2.03%	2.05%	2.00%	2.06%	2.16%	2.43%
EFA Adoption Rate By Education Program												
Public School To EFA in Another Public School	0%		21	508	2,344	2,679	2,733	2,726	2,630	2,696	2,787	3,113
Public School to EFA not in a Public School	75%		4	102	469	536	547	545	526	539	557	623
Non-Public School to EFA program	15%		3	68	313	357	364	363	351	359	372	415
Home Education to EFA program	10%		28	677	3,126	3,573	3,644	3,634	3,506	3,594	3,716	4,150
	100%		28	677	3,126	3,573	3,644	3,634	3,506	3,594	3,716	4,150
Change in Students			28	649	2,449	447	71	(10)	(128)	88	122	434
State Total Average Cost Per-Pupil												
State Adequacy	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
State Stabilization	940		964	988	1,012	1,038	1,064	1,090	1,117	1,145	1,174	1,203
State Other	556		570	585								
Taxpayer Contribution - State	6,093		6,137	6,402	5,963	6,112	6,264	6,421	6,582	6,746	6,915	7,088
Taxpayer Contribution - Federal	954		978	1,002	1,027	1,053	1,079	1,106	1,134	1,162	1,191	1,221
Taxpayer Contribution - Local	12,441		12,752	13,071	13,398	13,733	14,076	14,428	14,789	15,158	15,537	15,926
Taxpayer Contribution - Other	385		395	405	415	426	436	447	458	470	481	493
	19,874		20,262	20,880	20,803	21,323	21,856	22,402	22,962	23,537	24,125	24,728
EFA Average Cost Per-Pupil												
State Adequacy	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
State Stabilization	0		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Other	0		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taxpayer Contribution - State	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
Federal Taxpayer Contribution												
Local Taxpayer Contribution												
Other												
	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
Difference - Traditional Student v. EFA Student	15,277		15,659	16,051	15,853	16,249	16,655	17,071	17,498	17,936	18,384	18,844
Inflation factor	2.50%	1.000	1.025	1.051	1.077	1.104	1.131	1.160	1.189	1.218	1.249	1.280
Taxpayer Cost Without EFA			3,481,887,611	3,551,561,563	3,489,011,803	3,511,915,898	3,548,103,485	3,588,287,315	3,637,611,735	3,699,524,795	3,752,895,503	3,817,869,778
Taxpayer Cost With EFA												
Traditional Student Cost			3,481,312,753	3,537,425,105	3,423,991,389	3,435,736,823	3,468,461,658	3,506,872,166	3,557,098,831	3,614,929,227	3,663,246,882	3,715,244,010
Public School To Another Public School												
Public School to Non-Public Option			97,943	2,452,333	11,604,390	13,595,910	14,213,918	14,530,408	14,369,382	15,098,027	15,999,861	18,315,931
Non-Public School			19,589	490,467	2,320,878	2,719,182	2,842,784	2,906,082	2,873,876	3,019,605	3,199,972	3,663,186
Home Education			13,059	326,978	1,547,252	1,812,788	1,895,189	1,937,388	1,915,918	2,013,070	2,133,315	2,442,124
			3,481,443,344	3,540,694,882	3,439,463,909	3,453,864,703	3,487,413,549	3,526,246,044	3,576,258,007	3,635,059,950	3,684,580,029	3,739,665,252
Gross taxpayer savings per year			444,266	10,866,681	49,547,894	58,051,195	60,689,936	62,041,272	61,353,728	64,464,865	68,315,473	78,204,525
Cumulative gross taxpayer savings per year			444,266	11,310,948	60,858,842	118,910,037	179,599,973	241,641,245	302,994,973	367,459,838	435,775,311	513,979,837
Fixed cost amortization				444,266	10,707,486	45,904,225	36,611,883	18,968,952	3,213,175	395,820	1,577,293	3,290,516
Years for fixed cost adjustment		3										
Net Annual Taxpayer Savings			444,266	10,422,415	38,840,408	12,146,970	24,078,054	43,072,320	58,140,553	64,069,045	66,738,180	74,914,010
Net Cumulative Taxpayer Savings			444,266	10,866,681	49,707,089	61,854,060	85,932,113	129,004,433	187,144,986	251,214,031	317,952,210	392,866,220

BUDGET

New Hampshire Department of Education  
 Long-term Comprehensive Modeling Analysis  
 Education Freedom Accounts

Full Cost Savings Model			21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26	26-27	27-28	28-29	29-30	30-31
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
	19-20	20-21										
Public School Enrollment (w/out Preschool)	171,651	169,204	171,843	170,093	167,718	164,701	162,340	160,174	158,416	157,182	155,561	154,394
Pandemic Normalization Rate			-1.07%	-1.04%	-1.44%	-1.86%	-1.47%	-1.37%	-1.12%	-0.79%	-1.05%	-0.76%
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Home School Enrollment	2,955	6,110	2,923	2,893	2,851	2,798	2,757	2,719	2,689	2,668	2,639	2,620
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Pandemic Returner Factor	75%											
Percent of EFA Eligible Students	100%		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Total Number of EFA Eligible Students	190,429		190,421	188,476	185,836	182,483	179,859	177,454	175,502	174,133	172,334	171,040
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EFA Adoption Rate			0.01%	0.36%	1.68%	1.96%	2.03%	2.05%	2.00%	2.06%	2.16%	2.43%
EFA Adoption Rate By Education Program												
Public School To EFA in Another Public School	0%		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public School to EFA not in a Public School	75%		21	508	2,344	2,679	2,733	2,726	2,630	2,696	2,787	3,113
Non-Public School to EFA program	15%		4	102	469	536	547	545	526	539	557	623
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Change in Students			28	649	2,449	447	71	(10)	(128)	88	122	434
State Total Average Cost Per-Pupil												
State Adequacy	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
State Stabilization	940		964	988	1,012	1,038	1,064	1,090	1,117	1,145	1,174	1,203
State Other	385		395	404								
Taxpayer Contribution - State	5,922		5,961	6,222	5,963	6,112	6,264	6,421	6,582	6,746	6,915	7,088
Taxpayer Contribution - Federal	954		978	1,002	1,027	1,053	1,079	1,106	1,134	1,162	1,191	1,221
Taxpayer Contribution - Local	12,441		12,752	13,071	13,398	13,733	14,076	14,428	14,789	15,158	15,537	15,926
Taxpayer Contribution - Other	556		570	585	599	614	630	645	661	678	695	712
	19,874		20,261	20,880	20,987	21,512	22,049	22,601	23,166	23,745	24,338	24,947
EFA Average Cost Per-Pupil												
State Adequacy	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
State Stabilization	0		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
State Other	0		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Taxpayer Contribution - State	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
Federal Taxpayer Contribution	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Local Taxpayer Contribution	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	4,597		4,603	4,830	4,950	5,074	5,201	5,331	5,464	5,601	5,741	5,884
Difference - Traditional Student v. EFA Student	15,277		15,659	16,050	16,037	16,438	16,849	17,270	17,701	18,144	18,598	19,063
Inflation factor	2.50%	1.000	1.025	1.051	1.077	1.104	1.131	1.160	1.189	1.218	1.249	1.280
Taxpayer Cost Without EFA			3,481,801,417	3,551,474,115	3,519,894,137	3,543,000,963	3,579,508,858	3,620,048,368	3,669,809,373	3,732,270,445	3,786,113,553	3,851,662,936
Taxpayer Cost With EFA												
Traditional Student Cost			3,481,226,574	3,537,338,005	3,454,298,206	3,466,147,603	3,499,162,096	3,537,912,587	3,588,583,824	3,646,926,095	3,695,671,424	3,748,128,796
Public School To Another Public School			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public School to Non-Public Option			97,943	2,452,333	11,604,390	13,595,910	14,213,918	14,530,408	14,369,382	15,098,027	15,999,861	18,315,931
Non-Public School			19,589	490,467	2,320,878	2,719,182	2,842,784	2,906,082	2,873,876	3,019,605	3,199,972	3,663,186
Home Education			13,059	326,978	1,547,252	1,812,788	1,895,189	1,937,388	1,915,918	2,013,070	2,133,315	2,442,124
			3,481,357,165	3,540,607,782	3,469,770,727	3,484,275,483	3,518,113,987	3,557,286,465	3,607,743,000	3,667,056,798	3,717,004,572	3,772,550,038
Gross taxpayer savings per year			444,252	10,866,333	50,123,410	58,725,480	61,394,871	62,761,903	62,066,373	65,213,647	69,108,981	79,112,898
Cumulative gross taxpayer savings per year			444,252	11,310,585	61,433,995	120,159,475	181,554,346	244,316,249	306,382,622	371,596,269	440,705,250	519,818,148
Fixed cost amortization				574,843	13,926,959	60,607,884	48,390,186	25,112,794	4,253,889	524,022	2,088,162	4,356,279
Years for fixed cost adjustment		3										
Net Annual Taxpayer Savings			444,252	10,291,490	36,196,451	(1,882,404)	13,004,685	37,649,109	57,812,484	64,689,624	67,020,819	74,756,619
Net Cumulative Taxpayer Savings			444,252	10,735,742	46,932,193	45,049,790	58,054,475	95,703,584	153,516,068	218,205,693	285,226,512	359,983,131

BUDGET

HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2780

10/04

HOUSE BILL            ***1684-FN-A-LOCAL***

AN ACT                limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Luneau, Merr. 10; Rep. Myler, Merr. 10

COMMITTEE:          Education

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ANALYSIS

This bill limits the amounts of funds appropriated from the education trust fund to the education freedom account program to budgeted sums.

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

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two*

AN ACT limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.

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

- 1 1 Education Freedom Accounts Program; Funding. Amend RSA 194-F:11 to read as follows:  
2 194-F:11 Appropriation From Education Trust Fund. The ~~[amount necessary]~~ **amounts** to fund  
3 ~~[any]~~ grants or transfers of funds authorized under this chapter ~~[is]~~ **are** hereby appropriated to the  
4 department from the education trust fund created under RSA 198:39. The governor is authorized to  
5 draw a warrant from the education trust fund to satisfy the state's obligation under this section.  
6 Such warrant for payment shall ~~[be issued regardless of the balance of funds available in the~~  
7 ~~education trust fund. If the balance in the education trust fund, after the issuance of any such~~  
8 ~~warrant, is less than zero, the comptroller shall transfer sufficient funds from the general fund to~~  
9 ~~eliminate such deficit. The commissioner of the department of administrative services shall inform~~  
10 ~~the fiscal committee and the governor and council of such balance. This reporting shall not in any~~  
11 ~~way prohibit or delay the distribution of any grant or transfer of funds authorized under this~~  
12 ~~chapter]~~ **not exceed \$129,000 for fiscal year 2022 and \$3,300,000 for fiscal year 2023, and in**  
13 **subsequent fiscal years shall not exceed the amounts appropriated for such purpose in the**  
14 **biennial state operating budget.**  
15 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect June 30, 2022.

**HB 1684-FN-A-LOCAL- FISCAL NOTE  
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT limiting education freedom account funding to budgeted amounts.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**     State             County             Local             None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<b>Appropriation</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> General	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**LOCAL:**

<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable Decrease	Indeterminable
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill limits the Department of Education’s warrant authority for the purpose of disbursing funds for education freedom accounts (EFAs) to \$129,000 in FY 2022, \$3,300,000 in FY 2023, and operating budget amounts in FY 2024 and each year thereafter. The warrant authority being amended is for both EFA grants and EFA phase-out grants to local school districts. EFAs grants in FY 2022 are estimated to total approximately \$8 million (estimate as of November 1, 2021, with final calculations to be made on April 1, 2022) and while this bill is technically effective in FY 2022 (June 30, 2022) it is unclear how it would be implemented. It is indeterminable how much of the \$8 million the Department would be able to retrieve, if any, or what legal or administrative cost might be incurred trying to retrieve those funds. Should the Department be able to collect back all funds, it would be approximately \$7.9 million returned to the education trust fund (from both EFA accounts and EFA phase out grants to local school districts). The Department does not have estimates for EFA participation in FY 2023 and beyond, however if it remained at the same level as FY 2022, this bill would result in approximately \$4.7 million less in EFA distribution from the education trust fund. This bill’s impact on FY 2024 and beyond is indeterminable as it would be based on future budgeted amounts for EFAs.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Education