LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

HB1218

Bill as Introduced

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2153 04/11

HOUSE BILL 1218-FN

AN ACT relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New

Hampshire.

SPONSORS: Rep. Ladd, Graf. 4; Rep. Hobson, Rock. 35; Rep. Shaw, Hills. 16; Rep. Umberger,

Carr. 2; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Mullen, Hills. 7; Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Ward, Dist 8;

Sen. Kahn, Dist 10

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill merges Granite state college into the university of New Hampshire.

......

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT

25

26

27

28

29

30

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

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

- 1 1 Department of Education; Higher Education Commission. Amend RSA 21-N:8-a, II(a)(1) to 2 read as follows: 3 (1) The president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Keene state college[5] and the president of Plymouth state university[5, and the president of Granite State 4 eollege]. 5 6 2 State College and University System; Components of the University System. Amend RSA 7 187-A:2 to read as follows: 8 187-A:2 Components of the University System. The university system of New Hampshire shall consist of the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and 9 10 the mechanic arts and its other colleges, schools and divisions), the Plymouth state university, and 11 the Keene state college, and the Granite state college. 12 3 State College and University System; University of New Hampshire Colleges and Schools. 13 Amend RSA 187-A:4 to read as follows: 14 187-A:4 Colleges and Schools. The university shall include a college of engineering and physical 15 sciences, a college of liberal arts, a college of life sciences and agriculture, a school of business and 16 economics, a school of health studies, a college at Manchester, a graduate school, Granite state 17 college, and may include a school of social work and such other colleges, schools, departments and 18 divisions as are consistent with such organization. 19 4 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend the section 20 heading in RSA 187-A:11 to read as follows: 21187-A:11 Keene State College [7] and Plymouth State University [7, and Granite State College]. 22 5 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend RSA 187-A:11. 23 II-a to read as follows: 24
 - II-a. Granite state college is established [and made a body corporate and politic and] as a division of the university [system] of New Hampshire and is authorized to award associate, baccalaureate, and masters degrees.
 - 6 State College and University System; Trustees of University System. Amend RSA 187-A:13, I to read as follows:
 - I. [Eight] Seven ex-officio members: the governor of the state, the chancellor of the university system, the commissioner of agriculture, markets, and food, the commissioner of

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

education, the president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Plymouth state university, and the president of Keene state college, the president of the Granite state college.

7 State College and University System; Authority of the Trustees. Amend the introductory paragraph in RSA 187-A:16 and RSA 187-A:16, I to read as follows:

The trustees shall have the management and control of all the property and affairs of the university system of New Hampshire, the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and the mechanic arts), and all its divisions and departments, the Keene state college, and the Plymouth state university [, and the Granite state college]. They shall not change the name of the Plymouth state university [, or the Keene state college], or the Granite state college] nor shall they cease operating these colleges without legislative authority. It is the intent of the general court that the trustees, when exercising their responsibilities under this chapter, recognize and foster the unique character and educational mission of each institution of the system. To this end, the institutions are to be permitted to operate with the highest measure of autonomy and self-governance, subject to the supervision of the board of trustees. In addition to this general authority, the trustees are authorized to:

- I. Appoint and fix the compensation of a president of the university of New Hampshire, a president of Keene state college, and a president of Plymouth state university, and a president of the Granite state college, who shall be the chief academic and administrative officers of their respective institutions. The chief executive officer of each institution shall have the authority for and be responsible for the general administration and supervision of all aspects of the institutional, research and service programs of that institution.
- 8 State College and University System; Public Higher Education Study Committee. Amend RSA 187-A:28-a to read as follows:
- 187-A:28-a Public Higher Education Study Committee. Educational opportunity in New Hampshire must involve all the components of education. The general court acknowledges that education does not start or end at any particular point. There is hereby established a permanent public higher education study committee for the state of New Hampshire. The study committee shall be composed of 8 members and shall examine the goals, purposes, organization, and financing of public higher education in New Hampshire, and shall evaluate and make recommendations on the university of New Hampshire, Plymouth state university, Keene state college, [the Granite state eellege,] and the community college system of New Hampshire.
 - 9 Motor Vehicles; Multi-use Decal Plates. Amend RSA 261-B:9, XII to read as follows:
- XII. The university system of New Hampshire. [Granite state college,] Keene state college, and Plymouth state university are each authorized to issue decals, provided that all proceeds shall remain with the issuing institution and be used only for student scholarships.
 - 10 Repeal. RSA 187-A:11, II-a, relative to Granite state college, is repealed.
- 37 11 Effective Date.

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 3 -

- I. Section 10 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2023.
- 2 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

HB 1218-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

[] County

[] Local

[] None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
STATE:	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable [,]
Expenditures	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Funding Source:	[] General] Highway[X	Other - University
Lunuing Source.	System of New Ham	pshire		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes Granite State College (GSC) as a division within the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and would amend other relevant statutes to reflect attendant administrative and governance changes. The repeal of RSA 187-A:11, II-a, specifically, which establishes GSC as "a body corporate and politic," would be effective July 1, 2023, with the remainder of the act effective upon passage. The fiscal impact on University System of New Hampshire (System) operations is indeterminable as a number of workstreams are being addressed concurrently (e.g., online delivery, accreditation, facilities, programming, etc.). The System states increases to its operating expense to migrate and align GSC and UNH systems are expected in the short term, and savings and added revenue are expected in the long term with the consolidation of duplicative resources and programs and growth in online offerings once fully integrated. Some level of "full integration" is expected by FY 2024, when GSC will no longer offer degrees on its own.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

University System of New Hampshire

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2022 SESSION

22-2153 04/11

HOUSE BILL

1218-FN

AN ACT

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New

Hampshire.

SPONSORS:

Rep. Ladd, Graf. 4; Rep. Hobson, Rock. 35; Rep. Shaw, Hills. 16; Rep. Umberger, Carr. 2; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Mullen, Hills. 7; Sen.

Gray, Dist 6; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Ward, Dist 8;

Sen. Kahn, Dist 10

COMMITTEE:

SENATE Education -

OTP 5-0 CONSENT

ANALYSIS

This bill merges Granite state college into the university of New Hampshire.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT

14 15

16

17

18

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

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

- 1 Department of Education; Higher Education Commission. Amend RSA 21-N:8-a, II(a)(1) to 2 read as follows:
- 3 (1) The president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Keene state college[,] and the president of Plymouth state university[, and the president of Granite State eollege].
- 2 State College and University System; Components of the University System. Amend RSA 187-A:2 to read as follows:
- 187-A:2 Components of the University System. The university system of New Hampshire shall consist of the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and the mechanic arts and its other colleges, schools and divisions), the Plymouth state university, and the Keene state college[, and the Granite state college].
- 3 State College and University System; University of New Hampshire Colleges and Schools.
 Amend RSA 187-A:4 to read as follows:
 - 187-A:4 Colleges and Schools. The university shall include a college of engineering and physical sciences, a college of liberal arts, a college of life sciences and agriculture, a school of business and economics, a school of health studies, a college at Manchester, a graduate school, *Granite state college*, and may include a school of social work and such other colleges, schools, departments and divisions as are consistent with such organization.
- 19 4 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend the section 20 heading in RSA 187-A:11 to read as follows:
- 21 187-A:11 Keene State College[3] and Plymouth State University[, and Granite State College].
- 5 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend RSA 187-A:11, II-a to read as follows:
- II-a. Granite state college is established [and made a body corporate and politic and] as a division of the university [system] of New Hampshire and is authorized to award associate, baccalaureate, and masters degrees.
- 6 State College and University System; Trustees of University System. Amend RSA 187-A:13, I to read as follows:
- I. [Eight] Seven ex-officio members: the governor of the state, the chancellor of the university system, the commissioner of agriculture, markets, and food, the commissioner of

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 2 -

education, the president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Plymouth state university, and the president of Keene state college, the president of the Granite state college.

7 State College and University System; Authority of the Trustees. Amend the introductory paragraph in RSA 187-A:16 and RSA 187-A:16, I to read as follows:

The trustees shall have the management and control of all the property and affairs of the university system of New Hampshire, the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and the mechanic arts), and all its divisions and departments, the Keene state college, and the Plymouth state university[, and the Granite state college]. They shall not change the name of the Plymouth state university[,] or the Keene state college[, or the Granite state college] nor shall they cease operating these colleges without legislative authority. It is the intent of the general court that the trustees, when exercising their responsibilities under this chapter, recognize and foster the unique character and educational mission of each institution of the system. To this end, the institutions are to be permitted to operate with the highest measure of autonomy and self-governance, subject to the supervision of the board of trustees. In addition to this general authority, the trustees are authorized to:

- I. Appoint and fix the compensation of a president of the university of New Hampshire, a president of Keene state college[-] and a president of Plymouth state university[-, and a president of the Granite state college], who shall be the chief academic and administrative officers of their respective institutions. The chief executive officer of each institution shall have the authority for and be responsible for the general administration and supervision of all aspects of the institutional, research and service programs of that institution.
- 8 State College and University System; Public Higher Education Study Committee. Amend RSA 187-A:28-a to read as follows:
- 187-A:28-a Public Higher Education Study Committee. Educational opportunity in New Hampshire must involve all the components of education. The general court acknowledges that education does not start or end at any particular point. There is hereby established a permanent public higher education study committee for the state of New Hampshire. The study committee shall be composed of 8 members and shall examine the goals, purposes, organization, and financing of public higher education in New Hampshire, and shall evaluate and make recommendations on the university of New Hampshire, Plymouth state university, Keene state college, [the Granite state eellege,] and the community college system of New Hampshire.
 - 9 Motor Vehicles; Multi-use Decal Plates. Amend RSA 261-B:9, XII to read as follows:
- XII. The university system of New Hampshire. [Granite state college,] Keene state college, and Plymouth state university are each authorized to issue decals, provided that all proceeds shall remain with the issuing institution and be used only for student scholarships.
 - 10 Repeal. RSA 187-A:11, II-a, relative to Granite state college, is repealed.
- 37 11 Effective Date.

HB 1218-FN - AS INTRODUCED - Page 3 -

- I. Section 10 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2023.
- 2 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

HB 1218-FN- FISCAL NOTE AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

FISCAL IMPACT:

[X] State

[] County

[] Local

[] None

	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
STATE:	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenue	\$0	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Expenditures	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Funding Source:	[] General System of New Ham	[] Education [pshire] Highway [X]	Other - University

METHODOLOGY:

This bill establishes Granite State College (GSC) as a division within the University of New Hampshire (UNH) and would amend other relevant statutes to reflect attendant administrative and governance changes. The repeal of RSA 187-A:11, II-a, specifically, which establishes GSC as "a body corporate and politic," would be effective July 1, 2023, with the remainder of the act effective upon passage. The fiscal impact on University System of New Hampshire (System) operations is indeterminable as a number of workstreams are being addressed concurrently (e.g., online delivery, accreditation, facilities, programming, etc.). The System states increases to its operating expense to migrate and align GSC and UNH systems are expected in the short term, and savings and added revenue are expected in the long term with the consolidation of duplicative resources and programs and growth in online offerings once fully integrated. Some level of "full integration" is expected by FY 2024, when GSC will no longer offer degrees on its own.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

University System of New Hampshire

CHAPTER 35 HB 1218-FN - FINAL VERSION

2022 SESSION

22-2153 04/11

HOUSE BILL 1218-FN

AN ACT relative to the merger of Granite state college with the university of New

Hampshire.

SPONSORS: Rep. Ladd, Graf. 4; Rep. Hobson, Rock. 35; Rep. Shaw, Hills. 16; Rep. Umberger,

Carr. 2; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Mullen, Hills. 7; Sen. Gray, Dist 6; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Reagan, Dist 17; Sen. Ward, Dist 8;

Sen. Kahn, Dist 10

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill merges Granite state college into the university of New Hampshire.

Explanation:

Matter added to current law appears in bold italics.

Matter removed from current law appears [in brackets and struckthrough.]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

CHAPTER 35 HB 1218-FN - FINAL VERSION

22-2153 04/11

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to the merger of Granite state college with the university of New Hampshire.

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

	De il Illucieu dy ine Senuie unu House of Representatives in General Court conveneu.
1	35:1 Department of Education; Higher Education Commission. Amend RSA 21-N:8-a, II(a)(1) to
2	read as follows:
3	(1) The president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Keene state
4	college[,] and the president of Plymouth state university[, and the president of Granite State
5	college].
6	35:2 State College and University System; Components of the University System. Amend RSA
7	187-A:2 to read as follows:
8	187-A:2 Components of the University System. The university system of New Hampshire shall
9	consist of the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and
10	the mechanic arts and its other colleges, schools and divisions), the Plymouth state university, and
11	the Keene state college[, and the Granite state college].
12	35:3 State College and University System; University of New Hampshire Colleges and Schools
13	Amend RSA 187-A:4 to read as follows:
14	187-A:4 Colleges and Schools. The university shall include a college of engineering and physica
15	sciences, a college of liberal arts, a college of life sciences and agriculture, a school of business and
16	economics, a school of health studies, a college at Manchester, a graduate school, Granite state
17	college, and may include a school of social work and such other colleges, schools, departments and
18	divisions as are consistent with such organization.
19	35:4 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend the section
20	heading in RSA 187-A:11 to read as follows:
21	187-A:11 Keene State College[] and Plymouth State University[, and Granite State College].
22	35:5 State College and University System; Other Colleges Within System. Amend RSA 187
23	A:11, II-a to read as follows:
24	II-a. Granite state college is established [and made a body corporate and politic and] as a
2 5	division of the university [system] of New Hampshire and is authorized to award associate
26	baccalaureate, and masters degrees.

35:6 State College and University System; Trustees of University System. Amend RSA 187-28 A:13, I to read as follows:

CHAPTER 35 HB 1218-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 2 -

I. [Eight] Seven ex-officio members: the governor of the state, the chancellor of the university system, the commissioner of agriculture, markets, and food, the commissioner of education, the president of the university of New Hampshire, the president of Plymouth state university, and the president of Keene state college[, the president of the Granite state college].

35:7 State College and University System; Authority of the Trustees. Amend the introductory paragraph in RSA 187-A:16 and RSA 187-A:16, I to read as follows:

The trustees shall have the management and control of all the property and affairs of the university system of New Hampshire, the university of New Hampshire (including the New Hampshire college of agriculture and the mechanic arts), and all its divisions and departments, the Keene state college, and the Plymouth state university[, and the Granite state college]. They shall not change the name of the Plymouth state university[,] or the Keene state college[, or the Granite state college] nor shall they cease operating these colleges without legislative authority. It is the intent of the general court that the trustees, when exercising their responsibilities under this chapter, recognize and foster the unique character and educational mission of each institution of the system. To this end, the institutions are to be permitted to operate with the highest measure of autonomy and self-governance, subject to the supervision of the board of trustees. In addition to this general authority, the trustees are authorized to:

I. Appoint and fix the compensation of a president of the university of New Hampshire, a president of Keene state college [7] and a president of Plymouth state university [7, and a president of the Granite state college], who shall be the chief academic and administrative officers of their respective institutions. The chief executive officer of each institution shall have the authority for and be responsible for the general administration and supervision of all aspects of the institutional, research and service programs of that institution.

35:8 State College and University System; Public Higher Education Study Committee. Amend RSA 187-A:28-a to read as follows:

187-A:28-a Public Higher Education Study Committee. Educational opportunity in New Hampshire must involve all the components of education. The general court acknowledges that education does not start or end at any particular point. There is hereby established a permanent public higher education study committee for the state of New Hampshire. The study committee shall be composed of 8 members and shall examine the goals, purposes, organization, and financing of public higher education in New Hampshire, and shall evaluate and make recommendations on the university of New Hampshire, Plymouth state university, Keene state college, [the Granite state college,] and the community college system of New Hampshire.

35:9 Motor Vehicles; Multi-use Decal Plates. Amend RSA 261-B:9, XII to read as follows:

XII. The university system of New Hampshire. [Granite state college,] Keene state college[7] and Plymouth state university are each authorized to issue decals, provided that all proceeds shall remain with the issuing institution and be used only for student scholarships.

CHAPTER 35 HB 1218-FN - FINAL VERSION - Page 3 -

- 35:10 Repeal. RSA 187-A:11, II-a, relative to Granite state college, is repealed. 1
- 2 35:11 Effective Date.
- 3 I. Section 10 of this act shall take effect July 1, 2023.
- 4 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.

Approved: May 03, 2022

Effective Date:

I. Section 10 effective July 1, 2023
II. Remainder effective May 3, 2022

5

Committee Minutes

SENATE CALENDAR NOTICE Education

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

Date: March 2, 2022

HEARINGS

	Tuesday	03/08/2022	
	(Day)	(Date)	
Education		Legislative Office Building 101	9:00 a.m.
(Name of C	Committee)	(Place)	(Time)
9:00 a.m.	HB 1521-FN	requiring the department of education to provide the senate standing committees responsible for education copies of the laws relative to education.	
9:15 a.m.	HB 1218-FN	relative to the merger of Granite State college with New Hampshire.	the university of
9:30 a.m.	HB 1653-FN	relative to educational and employment opportunit for military families and their dependents.	ies and protections
9:45 a.m.	HB 1575-FN	relative to waiver of tuition in the university system college system.	m and community

EXECUTIVE SESSION MAY FOLLOW

Sponsors: HB 1521-FN

Rep. Tanner Rep. Fellows Rep. Cornell Rep. Frost Rep. Ellison Rep. J. Schmidt

Rep. Woodcock Rep. Mullen Rep. Van Houten Rep. Myler HB 1218-FN Rep. Ladd Rep. Cordelli Sen. Reagan HB 1653-FN Rep. Roy HB 1575-FN

Rep. Roy

Rep. Hobson Rep. Mullen Sen. Ward Rep. Umberger Sen. Gray Sen. Kahn

Rep. Moffett Sen. D'Allesandro

Ava Hawkes 271-3266

Ruth Ward Chairman

Senate Education Committee

Ava Hawkes 271-3266

HB 1218-FN, relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

Hearing Date:

March 8, 2022

Time Opened:

9:26 a.m.

Time Closed:

9:54 a.m.

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

and Prentiss

Members of the Committee Absent: None

Bill Analysis:

This bill merges Granite state college into the university of New

Hampshire.

Sponsors:

Rep. Ladd

Rep. Hobson

Rep. Umberger

Rep. Moffett

Rep. Cordelli

Rep. Mullen

Sen. Gray

Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Reagan

Sen. Ward

Sen. Kahn

Who supports the bill: Senator Ruth Ward, Senator John Reagan, Senator James Gray, Representative Rick Ladd, Catherine Provencher (USNH), Mike Decelle (USNH)

Who opposes the bill: None

Who is neutral on the bill: None

Summary of testimony presented:

Senator Jay Kahn - Senate District 10

- Senator Kahn introduced HB 1218-FN on behalf of Representative Ladd.
- He cosponsored this bill.
- This bill passed the House Education Committee unanimously.
- Last fall, the university system presented to a legislative oversight committee which preceded the introduction of this bill. That presentation was about the university systems request for support of this merger.
- The legislative oversight committee did provide a recommendation of support of this merger. Senator Ward chaired this oversight committee.

Catherine Provencher - Chief Administrative Offer, University System of New Hampshire

Mike Decelle - Dean, UNH Manchester and Granite State College

- The former President of Granite State College, Mark Rubinstein, left last fall to become the Chancellor of the Community College System of NH (CCSNH.)
- The question is how we can think differently about the structure and delivery of higher education.
- We are facing demographic challenges in the future.
- We must ask how students want their education delivered by rethinking about the way they operate today.
- Following President Rubinstein's departure, all parties supported the idea of merging Granite State College within the university system.
- This bill preserves the name and mission of Granite State College.
- USNH is working with CCSNH as well on this merger.
- The bill, as written, would provide by July 2023,
- Degrees will not be awarded by Granite State College but by the University of New Hampshire (UNH.)
- If this bill is to pass, they need to start planning.
- This merger is not just about students at Granite State College or UNH Manchester. It is more about online infrastructure through impactful online delivery. That resource will be shared across the university system.
- This merger is motivated by the headwinds we face, the opportunity to better serve NH students and the broader market for online education.
- Granite State College has relatively low name recognition within the state. This
 merger will offer a collective benefit and solidify Granite State College's
 performance.
- Senator Prentiss asked Ms. Provencher and Mr. Decelle about the composition
 of the board of trustees and if this bill would change the structure.
 - Ms. Provencher said they've maintained a student representative in the rotation on the board of trustees. Granite State College students are not traditional, residential students. While this college will be under UNH, that population will maintain a student trustee.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle what his title is.

- o Mr. Decelle said he has been the Dean of UNH Manchester for the last six years. Now, he is the Chief Administrative Officer at Granite State College following Chancellor Rubinstein's departure.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle if this bill is to pass, what his title will be and what the college's title become.
 - o Mr. Decelle said while Granite State College will maintain its name as a division under UNH, they will be calling it the UNH College of Professional Studies, of which he will lead. This college will serve non-traditional adult learners advancing their careers. They would absorb Granite State College personnel, where some personnel will start to serve online tech needs.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle about degree titles and how they visualize these degrees. Does UNH Manchester already have a designation on a degree.
 - o Mr. Decelle said yes, the degree is signed by the college dean and the name of the college is identified specifically on the diploma. UNH Manchester would be renamed as the College of Professional Studies with Granite State as a discrete division in that college.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle what degrees this college will offer.
 - o Mr. Decelle said they will offer the same degrees as offered today, i.e. associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees. All of which will be offered online. UNH Manchester confers a small number of associate's degrees, however, they have been trying to scale those back in favor of those degrees being issued by the CCSNH.
 - o The bulk of UNH Manchester's undergraduate degrees are offered in a residential, face-to-face learning format. Their graduate degrees are a mix of face-to-face and online. They will have a much broader, richer list of offered programs. The degrees they issue will remain the same.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle for clarity on what those degrees will be as the legislature grants them the ability to issue degrees.
 - o Mr. Decelle said the inclusion of colleges on the diploma is more stylistic on at this point. On a student's transcript, they are issued from UNH only.
 - o Ms. Provencher added that this legislation provides the authority for UNH to award the degree, not the College of Professional Studies.
- Senator Kahn asked for clarity on whether or not Granite State College will be identified on the degree.

- o Mr. Decelle not as such, UNH will issue the credential. Ms. Provencher added that this will begin in 2023. Mr. Decelle said they would continue to issue Granite State College degrees through July 1, 2023 only, if this bill were to pass. Granite State College, as a body politic, would be eliminated as of July 1, 2023.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle about enrollment in Granite State College and it running ahead of the curve for a while. He asked if the merger has had a positive effect or has enrollment gone down.
 - o Mr. Decelle said it is too early to know what effect the merger has had. They operate as a completely financially stable and independent organization right now.
 - o All personnel remain in place, finance and HR organizations are the only organizations that have been integrated thus far. This made sense for the merger to look at financial analysis.
 - o They ran positive margins for many years. It has seen a shallow decline in credit hour demand, which is a proxy for enrollment. However, they have been able to manage their cost structure to stay net positive. There is great opportunity in online learning market.
- Senator Kahn asked Mr. Decelle about the financial disclosure for Granite State College. He wonders how this will be envisioned in the future, if it will be visible to a legislator to see the net positive margin or if it will be dissolved in FY24.
 - o Ms. Provencher said in the audited financial statements, Granite State College will not be broken out. Financial activity by college can always be provided upon request. It will become part of the breakout for UNH after the merger. All colleges have internal financial statements that are not subject to external financial audit.
 - o Ms. Provencher said there is a real commitment to continue with the open-enrollment access and lower tuition rates seen at Granite State College.
 - o Mr. Decelle said while UNH retails at upwards of \$700 per credit hour, Granite State College's credit rate for in-state students is \$314 per credit hour, of which they plan to maintain. That is the price point you need to be at.
- Senator Kahn asked Ms. Provencher about Keene State and ongoing conversations about governance. He has concerns about the role of the legislature staying present in this progress and change. It is important that communication stay open between the system and the legislature. The legislature should not be blindsided by decisions, however, the legislature should be partners in those decisions.

o Ms. Provencher said Representative Rick Ladd and Senator James Gray sit on their board. Both Representative Ladd and Senator Gray provide healthy and informed dialogue on the board. Last week, the board unanimously named Jim Dean as Interim Chancellor for the university system. The motivation behind this decision was to acknowledge the state of transition we are currently in. The next wave of work will be evaluating and accessing student-based services. The temporariness of Jim Dean being chancellor acknowledges the constantly changing dialogue taking place.

amh
Date Hearing Report completed: March 9, 2022

Speakers

Senate Education Committee SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: 03/08/2022

Time: 09:15 a.m.

HB 1218-FN

AN ACT relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

Name/Representing (please print neatly)					
Rop Rick Cald Sponsor	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	N _o
Jen Jim Gray Co Spopson	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No E
1 Catherin Provencher & Mila Decelle USNI	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
•	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
<u> </u>	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support \square	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No □
·	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No

Senate Remote Testify

Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB1218 on 2022-03-08 Support: 2 Oppose: 0

<u>Name</u>

Ward, Senator Ruth Reagan, Senator John <u>Title</u>

An Elected Official
An Elected Official

Representing

Senate District 8
Senate District 17

Position

Support Support

Testimony

Senate Education Committee

March 8, 2022

HB 1218, relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire

Testimony of Catherine Provencher, Chief Administrative Officer, USNH Mike Decelle, Dean, UNH Manchester and Granite State College

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today about the future of the University System.

As members of this committee are aware, the University System has been diligently working to address the many headwinds facing higher education in the Northeast to continue meeting our mission of providing access to affordable, high-quality public higher education for the citizens of New Hampshire. We believe HB 1218 is an important piece of that work and want to share our thanks to Senator Ward, Representative Ladd, the members of the Public Higher Education Study Committee and other sponsors of the legislation for their help in developing this careful change to our governing statute.

Currently, Granite State College, a component of the University System, and UNH Manchester, a college of UNH, successfully pursue very similar missions focused largely on professional studies and non-traditional students. Because of these similarities, however, the colleges often compete for students while duplicating resources on instruction, administration, and facilities. Most simply, HB 1218 will allow us to address this duplication through the establishment of a single college of professional studies that we believe will better serve our students while reducing costs across the university system.

We want to emphasize three important points:

1) We intended to preserve the name as well as the important identity of Granite State College. As such, enrollment to GSC will remain open access and tuition rates will remain lower than the other programs in the system. We recognize the importance of these principles to our students and partners, including the Community College System and the business community.

- 2) While this bill most directly impacts GSC and UNH, the combined technological infrastructure of these two institutions will be a tremendous asset to Keene State College and Plymouth State University, creating an IT framework that will allow all our campuses to bring their programs online more effectively and broaden our reach.
- 3) We do not anticipate any forced layoffs as a part of this merger.

This proposal was developed by a cross-section of the USNH community, including most notably Granite State College's former president and the current leadership team, GSC alumni trustees and a student trustee, as well as the presidents and leadership teams of UNH, Plymouth State University and Keene State College, and ultimately supported by a unanimous vote of the USNH Board of Trustees. Further, as mentioned earlier, the bill has been recommended and cosponsored by all the members of the joint Public Higher Education Study Committee following a series of meetings last fall.

HB 1218 will allow the university system to better serve our students, and in turn the state, by providing affordable, accessible, aligned, and integrated higher education to any student seeking a degree or credential. It is an important step in a necessary evolution of the university system that we are confident will aid us in strengthening our institutions and preserving their benefits for future generations.

Contact:

Cathy Provencher, Chief Administrative Officer, USNH catherine.provencher@usnh.edu | 603-494-0638

Mike Decelle, Dean, UNH Manchester and Granite State College mike.decelle@unh.edu | 603-641-4107

Debra Martone

From:

Thomas Cronin <thomas.cronin@unh.edu>

Sent:

Monday, March 21, 2022 9:34 PM

To:

Debra Martone

Catherine Provencher

Cc: Subject:

Follow-up: Sen. Daniels' question on GSC Tuition

Hi Deb,

Earlier today, Sen. Daniels and Cathy Provencher spoke for a few minutes about HB 1218, legislation merging Granite State College with UNH. The Senator had a question about tuition rates at GSC. On behalf of Cathy, please find the response below.

Please let us know if you have any questions,

Tom

Good evening Chairman Daniels,

Thank you for your time this afternoon and for raising your question about future tuition rates at Granite State College.

Through this merger we are committed to preserving the important identity of Granite State College. As such, enrollment to GSC will remain open access and tuition rates will remain lower than the other programs in the system. We recognize the importance of these principles to our students and partners, including the Community College System and the business community. Further, we acknowledge the highly competitive and cost-sensitive nature of the online adult education market and the critical importance of price to remaining relevant and successful in that market.

We believe we will be able to maintain lower tuition rates at GSC in large part because of the unique characteristics of the college and its typical students. Open access enrollment lowers the barriers to entry for GSC students, which also broadens our potential applicant pool and helps us to enroll more future graduates. Online coursework, the primary delivery method for GSC, further reduces cost compared to traditional inperson instruction. GSC will continue to provide most courses asynchronously, which permits fewer, part-time faculty to offer courses with higher enrollments compared to their in-person counterparts. Additionally, online coursework does not rely on the physical infrastructure requisite for other colleges.

More broadly, and in the longer-term, we expect to realize some savings through the elimination of duplicate courses while also expanding enrollments and revenues at GSC by marketing with the UNH brand and expanding online offerings in high demand programs.

When taken together, we are confident the features that make a GSC degree attractive to the state's adult and non-traditional students, coupled with the opportunities made possible by the proposed merger, will permit us

to sustain our commitment to continue offering GSC credits at a lower price point than other colleges in the university system.

I hope this helps to address you questions. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you or other members of the committee have any follow-up.

Sincerely,

Catherine Provencher
Chief Administrative Officer and Vice Chancellor for Financial Affairs and Treasurer
University System of New Hampshire

Thomas P. Cronin

Executive Director of Government Relations
University of New Hampshire, University System of New Hampshire
thomas.cronin@unh.edu | 603.264.5659

Voting Sheets

VCB

Senate Education Committee

EXECUTIVE SESSION RECORD

2022-2023 Session

210/02			Bill # HB	1218-17
Hearing date: 318100				
Executive Session date: 31	100			
	\wedge			
Motion of:)		Vote	:_5-0
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	
Sen. Ward, Chair				
Sen. Hennessey, VC				
Sen. Ricciardi				V
Sen. Kahn				
Sen. Prentiss				
0.4		1		
Motion of:	<u> 10801</u>	<u>† </u>	Vote	:5-0
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes / No
Sen. Ward, Chair	V,			
Sen. Hennessey, VC	W,			4/
Sen. Ricciardi		<u> </u>		
Sen. Kahn				
Sen. Prentiss				
Motion of:	,		Vote	:
Committee Member	Present	Made by	Second	Yes No
COIL TRAILS, CITAIL				
Sen. Hennessey, VC				
Sen. Ricciardi				
Sen. Kahn				
Sen. Prentiss				
Reported out by:	ahn			
Reported out by:	<u>\W </u>			

otes:	 		
•	 	·	
	•		

,

Senate Finance Committee EXECUTIVE SESSION

	Bill # HB 1218-FN
Hearing date:NA	
02/2/22	
Executive session date: 03/22/25	(-0
Motion of:	_ VOTE:
Made by Daniels Seconded Daniel	s 🗌 <u>Reported</u> Daniels 🗌
Senator: Reagan	
Giuda 📙 Giuda	
Rosenwald L Rosenwa	
D'Allesandro U D'Allesa	
Morse \square Mors	·
Hennessey U Henness	ey 🗌 Hennessey 🗗
Motion of:	VOTE:
Made by Daniels Seconded Danie	els Reported Daniels
Senator: Reagan by Senator: Reagan	Sy conator Magain —
Giuda L Giuda	
Rosenwald L Rosenwald	
D'Allesandro U	
Morse \square Mors	
Hennessey \square Hennes	sey \square Hennessey \square
Committee Member Present	Yes No Reported out by
<u>Committee Member</u> Senator Daniels , Chairman	Yes No Reported out by
Senator Reagan, Vice-Chair	
Senator Giuda	
Senator Hennessey	
Senator Rosenwald	
Senator Morse	吊
Senator D'Allesandro	
Amendments:	
Notas	

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

THE COMMITTEE ON Education

to which was referred HB 1218-FN

AN ACT

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 5-0

Senator Jay Kahn For the Committee

This bill merges Granite State College into the University of New Hampshire and would support the promotion of online learning infrastructure in New Hampshire's higher education system. This bill would benefit the students of Granite State College, often non-traditional adult learners looking to advance their careers, with the resources and name recognition extended by the University of New Hampshire. This merger would also ensure that the low, affordable credit hour rate for in-state students by Granite State College remains. The combined technological infrastructure is expected to be a tremendous asset to all University System campuses. No forced layoffs are anticipated as a part of this merger.

Ava Hawkes 271-3266

FOR THE CONSENT CALENDAR

EDUCATION

HB 1218-FN, relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire. Ought to Pass, Vote 5-0.

Senator Jay Kahn for the committee.

This bill merges Granite State College into the University of New Hampshire and would support the promotion of online learning infrastructure in New Hampshire's higher education system. This bill would benefit the students of Granite State College, often non-traditional adult learners looking to advance their careers, with the resources and name recognition extended by the University of New Hampshire. This merger would also ensure that the low, affordable credit hour rate for in-state students by Granite State College remains. The combined technological infrastructure is expected to be a tremendous asset to all University System campuses. No forced layoffs are anticipated as a part of this merger.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 23, 2022

THE COMMITTEE ON Finance

to which was referred HB 1218-FN

AN ACT

relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS

BY A VOTE OF: 6-0

Senator Erin Hennessey For the Committee

Deb Martone 271-4980

		Docket of hb1218
11/18/2021	H	Introduced 01/05/2022 and referred to Education
01/07/2022	Н	Public Hearing: 01/11/2022 09:30 am LOB 205-207
01/27/2022	Н	Executive Session: 01/11/2022 01:00 pm LOB 205-207
02/03/2022	H	Committee Report: Ought to Pass (Vote 19-0; CC)
02/16/2022	Н	Ought to Pass: MA VV 02/16/2022 HJ 3
03/01/2022	S	Introduced 02/24/2022 and Referred to Education; SJ 5
03/03/2022	S	Hearing: 03/08/2022, Room 101, LOB, 09:15 am; SC 10
03/09/2022	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/17/2022; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 11
03/17/2022	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; Refer to Finance Rule 4-5; 03/17/2022; SJ 5
03/23/2022	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/31/2022; SC 13
03/31/2022	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; OT3rdg; 03/31/2022; SJ 7
04/22/2022	S	Enrolled Adopted, VV, (In recess 04/21/2022); SJ 10
04/25/2022	Н	Enrolled (in recess of) 04/21/2022
05/06/2022	Ή	Signed by Governor Sununu 05/03/2022; Chapter 35; I. Sec 10 Eff 7/01/2023 II.Remainder eff 05/03/2022

.

1

General Court of New Hampshire - Bill Status System

Docket of HB1218

Docket Abbreviations

Bill Title: relative to the merger of Granite State college with the university of New Hampshire.

Official Docket of HB1218.:

Date	Body	Description
11/18/2021	Н	Introduced 01/05/2022 and referred to Education
1/7/2022	Н	Public Hearing: 01/11/2022 09:30 am LOB 205-207
1/27/2022	Н	Executive Session: 01/11/2022 01:00 pm LOB 205-207
2/3/2022	Н	Committee Report: Ought to Pass (Vote 19-0; CC)
2/16/2022	Н	Ought to Pass: MA VV 02/16/2022 HJ 3
3/1/2022	S	Introduced 02/24/2022 and Referred to Education; SJ 5
3/3/2022	S	Hearing: 03/08/2022, Room 101, LOB, 09:15 am; SC 10
3/9/2022	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/17/2022; Vote 5-0; CC; SC 11
3/17/2022	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; Refer to Finance Rule 4-5; 03/17/2022; SJ 5
3/23/2022	S	Committee Report: Ought to Pass, 03/31/2022; SC 13
3/31/2022	S	Ought to Pass: MA, VV; OT3rdg; 03/31/2022; SJ 7
4/22/2022	S	Enrolled Adopted, VV, (In recess 04/21/2022); SJ 10
4/25/2022	Н	Enrolled (in recess of) 04/21/2022
5/6/2022	Н	Signed by Governor Sununu 05/03/2022; Chapter 35; I. Sec 10 Eff 7/01/2023 II.Remainder eff 05/03/2022

	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
NH House	NH Senate

Other Referrals

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives Bill Number: #B 1218-Please include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been included with an "X" beside Final docket found on Bill Status Bill Hearing Documents: {Legislative Aides} Bill version as it came to the committee All Calendar Notices Hearing Sign-up sheet(s) Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing. **Hearing Report** Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office Committee Action Documents: [Legislative Aides] All amendments considered in committee (including those not adopted): ____ - amendment # _____ - amendment # _____ ____ - amendment#_____ ____ - amendment#_____ Executive Session Sheet Committee Report Floor Action Documents: {Clerk's Office} All floor amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate): ____ - amendment # _____ - amendment # _____ ____ - amendment # _____ ____ - amendment#____ Post Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office} Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proposed by the committee of conference): Enrolled Bill Amendment(s) Governor's Veto Message All available versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office} as amended by the senate as amended by the house final version

Committee Aide

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

Senate Clerk's Office

Senate Inventory Checklist for Archives

Bill N	umber: 113 1218 FN Senate Committee: 4DU
	include all documents in the order listed below and indicate the documents which have been ed with an "X" beside
Δ	Final docket found on Bill Status
Bill H	earing Documents: {Legislative Aides}
<u> </u>	Bill version as it came to the committee
XXX X	All Calendar Notices
-X	Hearing Sign-up sheet(s)
X	Prepared testimony, presentations, & other submissions handed in at the public hearing
<u>X</u>	Hearing Report
MЫ	Revised/Amended Fiscal Notes provided by the Senate Clerk's Office
Comn	uttee Action Documents: {Legislative Aides}
All am	endments considered in committee (including those not adopted):
	amendment # amendment #
V	amendment # amendment #
	Executive Session Sheet
X_	Committee Report
Floor	Action Documents: {Clerk's Office}
All flo	or amendments considered by the body during session (only if they are offered to the senate):
	amendment # amendment #
	amendment # amendment #
Post I	Floor Action: (if applicable) {Clerk's Office}
	Committee of Conference Report (if signed off by all members. Include any new language proposed by the committee of conference):
	Enrolled Bill Amendment(s)
	Governor's Veto Message
All av	ailable versions of the bill: {Clerk's Office}
	as amended by the senate as amended by the house
	final version
Comp	leted Committee Report File Delivered to the Senate Clerk's Office By:
Colo	Just Janker 9/28/22
CUIMI	iittee Ade Date