



New Hampshire State Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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Business/Coalition Communities endorse Ed Funding amendment

CACR 12 will help ensure long-term economic stability in NH and end donor towns

CONCORD – New Hampshire business leaders, joined by Coalition Communities representing donor towns from across New Hampshire, came out in strong support of the Senate's constitutional amendment on education funding today. At a news conference, the groups touted CACR 12's benefits to the state's economic stability as well as the flexibility to target aid to needy towns.

Majority Leader Jeb Bradley, R-Wolfeboro, opened the event by thanking supporters in attendance noting CACR 12 is creating "an incredibly broad coalition" along with his hope it would end two decades of uncertainty regarding education funding in New Hampshire.

Chris Williams, President of the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, which represents over 600 businesses in southern New Hampshire, complimented the Senate for its efforts and thanked Governor Lynch for his support of CACR 12, noting the legislation applies good business practices to public policy. "New Hampshire's economy and tax infrastructure are built upon the shoulders of the business community, so we have a vested interest in the stability that comes with knowing how the state intends to fund our state's education system," said Williams. "This Senate amendment provides our legislature the means to finally provide a long-term strategy for funding New Hampshire's education needs while ensuring through the inclusion of the word 'responsibility' that the state will not walk away from supporting the education needs of cities like Nashua."

Dave Juvet of the Business & Industry Association (BIA) added, "This is a historic time for New Hampshire. For more than a decade, policy makers have been severely limited in how education dollars could be distributed. These limitations have resulted in inefficient funding plans that poorly allocate scarce financial resources." Additionally, Juvet shared BIA's belief that CACR 12 upholds New Hampshire's educational responsibilities.

The state's Coalition Communities, comprised of 36 donor towns, was represented by Pat Remick of Portsmouth. She also came out squarely on the side of being able to target scarce resources to poorer communities like 48 other states. Remick added, "Studies have shown that voters favor targeted aid and it's time the question go before them on the ballot."

Other CACR 12 supporters include: NH Auto Dealers Association, High Tech Council, Hitchiner Manufacturing, National Federation of Independent Business of NH, NH Association of Insurance Agents, Retail Merchants Association, Ski NH, Hampton Selectman Jerry Znoj, New London Board of Selectman Chair Mark Kaplan, Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce President Doug Bates and Rye Town Administrator Mike Magnant.

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