

State of New Hampshire

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Senate President Morse, Speaker Jasper defend education funding law

Concord, NH – Senate President Chuck Morse (R-Salem) and House Speaker Shawn Jasper (R-Hudson) released the following statement on the New Hampshire Superior Court Case, *City of Dover v. State of New Hampshire*, after the court granted their motion to intervene as full parties in the Dover lawsuit.

“It is imperative that a law passed by the elected representatives of the people of New Hampshire be given a complete defense in court and not simply be allowed to go unenforced because the Attorney General’s Office does not want to put up a strong defense. A majority of both houses voted to enact the law placing a cap on education funding, which Governor Lynch signed. We believe the law should be defended vigorously and that’s what we intend to do.”

“Less than one year ago, Governor Hassan proposed a budget that continued the practice of capping adequacy grants to municipalities for the biennium. She also proposed a budget in 2013 that included caps on adequacy grants.”

“Under the budget passed by the legislature, which Governor Hassan vetoed, these communities will see the education funding cap removed in FY ‘17 and will be fully funded under the legislature’s plan. Under Governor Hassan’s cap plan they would have received tens of millions less in state funding.”

Background:

HB 337 passed by a majority of both the House and Senate and signed by Governor Lynch in 2011, amending the education funding formula, placing caps on funding.

The current state operating budget contains an education formula that removed the education funding cap in FY ‘17.

The budget proposed by Governor Hassan included two funding caps in FY ‘16 and ‘17.

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