

## Senate Education Committee

*Kat Bourque 271-3091*

**HB 304**, relative to implementation of academic standards by a local school board and relative to review of academic standards under consideration by the state board of education.

**Hearing Date:** March 28, 2017

**Time Opened:** 10:26 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 10:42 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Reagan, Giuda, Ward, Watters and Kahn

**Members of the Committee Absent:** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill requires a school board that elects not to implement the academic standards adopted by the state board of education to implement alternative academic standards that meet or exceed state academic standards.

**Sponsors :**

Rep. Ladd  
Rep. Cordelli  
Sen. Giuda

Rep. Hinch  
Rep. T. Wolf

Rep. Chandler  
Rep. Murotake

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**Who supports the bill:** Michelle Levell (School Choice for NH), Darryl Perry (Liberty Lobby LLC), Rep. Ladd, Rep. Cordelli, Rep. Graham, Rep. Hinch, Ann Marie Banfield (Cornerstone)

**Who opposes the bill:** Carl Ladd (NHSAA), Timothy Kerman (Granite State Progress)

**Who is neutral on the bill:** No one

**Summary of testimony presented in support :**

*Rep. Ladd*

*Prime Sponsor*

- This bill has come before the legislature before in other forms.
- This bill requires a school board that elects not to implement the academic standards adopted by the state board of education to implement academic standards that meet or exceed state academic standards.
- The bill also requires the legislative oversight committee to review and make recommendations relating to academic standards under consideration by the state board of education.
- This bill promotes local control by leaving "Next Generation" and common core standards as those that cannot be required by the state. The local school board can

still decide to use these standards.

- Senator Watters has how it will be determined that the academic standards have met or exceeded the state academic standards. Rep. Ladd stated that the local school board would make this decision.
- Senator Watters asked if it would be fair to say that “Next Generation” and common core appears nowhere in state statute or Education Rules. Rep. Ladd stated that this was correct. These standards, however, are being moved forward with at the present time.
- Senator Giuda referred to Senator Watter’s question, and noted on lines 20-22 of the bill, the reference is to “such as” and is an exemplar.
- Senator Reagan agreed that some language in this bill is vague. Rep. Ladd will need to have a fix to this legislation by next week.
- Senator Kahn referenced line 2-6 of the bill. Rep. Ladd stated that this language has been referenced in memos received and that this has been agreed on by the Department of Education.

*Ann Marie Banfield*  
*Cornerstone*

- Ms. Bandfield submitted written testimony with questions regarding the language of the bill.

**Summary of testimony presented in opposition : N/A**

**Neutral Information Presented: N/A**

**Future Action: Pending**

KAB  
Date Hearing Report completed: March 28, 2017