

SB 228-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2017 SESSION

17-0790

04/05

SENATE BILL      ***228-FN-A***

AN ACT            establishing the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP).

SPONSORS:        Sen. Kahn, Dist 10; Sen. Feltes, Dist 15; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Hennessey, Dist 5; Sen. Lasky, Dist 13; Sen. Soucy, Dist 18; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Woodburn, Dist 1

COMMITTEE:      Education

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ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP) which provides financial incentives to college graduates who are hired by participating employers and makes an appropriation to the department for that purpose.

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                         Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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

AN ACT                establishing the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP).

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

1            1 New Subdivision; New Hampshire College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership (NH  
2 GRIP). Amend RSA 12-A by inserting after section 67 the following new subdivision:

3                    New Hampshire College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership (NH GRIP)

4            12-A:68 Definitions. In this subdivision:

5                I. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of resources and economic  
6 development.

7                II. "Department" means the department of resources and economic development.

8                III. "Eligible institution of higher education" means any public or private institution of  
9 higher education authorized to grant degrees in this state by the higher education commission  
10 pursuant to RSA 21-N:8-a.

11               IV. "Graduate" means a student who graduates from an eligible institution of higher  
12 education in May 2017 or thereafter.

13               V. "Incentive" means a monetary award given each year for 4 years by a participating  
14 employer to a graduate which the graduate may elect to be paid to the graduate or to an entity  
15 servicing the graduate's student loans.

16               VI. "Participating employer" means any person, firm, corporation, partnership, association,  
17 the state, any political subdivision of the state, or any other entity which is engaged in a business or  
18 in providing services and which employs employees in connection with such business or services  
19 who enters into a participating employer agreement to provide an incentive to a graduate.

20               VII. "Participating employer agreement" or "agreement" means an agreement prepared  
21 jointly by the department of resources and economic development in consultation with the  
22 New Hampshire College and University Council and the Business and Industry Association of  
23 New Hampshire.

24            12-A:69 New Hampshire College Graduate Retention Incentive Partnership Established. There  
25 is established the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP)  
26 which shall be administered by the department. The purpose of NH GRIP is to recruit and retain  
27 graduates from eligible institutions of higher education and provide incentives to those graduates to  
28 work in New Hampshire.

29            12-A:70 Requirements and Procedure. A graduate, who obtains employment with a  
30 participating employer who executes an agreement, shall receive an incentive of \$1,000 each year

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1 for the first 4 years of the graduate's employment with the participating employer. The agreement  
2 shall be signed by an authorized agent of the participating employer. The participating employer  
3 shall retain a copy of each signed agreement in its files.

4 12-A:71 Advertising. The department shall, in cooperation with the Business and Industry  
5 Association of New Hampshire, the New Hampshire College and University Council, the  
6 New Hampshire Higher Educations Assistance Fund, and the New Hampshire Coalition for  
7 Business and Education, advertise to New Hampshire employers and New Hampshire college  
8 students the details of NH GRIP, through print and electronic media. The department shall  
9 maintain a list of employers who have a valid participating employer agreement and shall make the  
10 list available on the department's public Internet site as well as in writing.

11 12-A:72 Funding. For the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and each biennium thereafter, the  
12 commissioner shall include any requests for appropriations related to NH GRIP in the biennial  
13 agency budget requests pursuant to RSA 9:4.

14 2 Appropriation. The sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 and the sum of \$1 for  
15 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, are hereby appropriated to the department of resources and  
16 economic development for the purpose of advertising and disseminating information to  
17 New Hampshire college students and graduates regarding the New Hampshire college graduate  
18 retention and incentive partnership (NH GRIP) established in RSA 12-A:68-72. The governor is  
19 authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise  
20 appropriated.

21 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

**SB 228-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE**  
**AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT establishing the New Hampshire college graduate retention incentive partnership (NH GRIP).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**    ☒ State                    ☐ County                    ☐ Local                    ☐ None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Appropriation</b>	\$1	\$1	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Expenditures</b>	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase	Indeterminable Increase
<b>Funding Source:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Highway	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill establishes the New Hampshire Graduate Incentive Partnership (NH GRIP) to be administered by the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED). The program provides \$1,000 annually to an individual who graduates from an eligible institution of higher education, located in New Hampshire, for the first four years of the graduate's employment with a participating New Hampshire employer. The graduate may elect to take the amount as cash, or choose to have the participating employer pay the entity that services the graduate's student loans. To fund the program, the Commissioner of DRED is required to include any requests for appropriations related to NH GRIP in the biennial agency budget request for the biennium beginning July 1, 2019, and each biennium thereafter. This bill appropriates \$1 in FY 2018 and \$1 in FY 2019 in general funds to DRED for the purpose of advertising and disseminating information about NH GRIP.

DRED states that to get the program started it would need at least one .25 temporary part-time employee (LG 14) in FY 2018 only, at an estimated cost of approximately \$15,000. Additional supervisory duties would be absorbed within existing resources. DRED assumes it would need to create a reporting mechanism to verify the employer is complying with the agreement and also to verify the number of students and interest in the program. DRED states an aggressive startup campaign with sustained marketing throughout the life of the program would be needed. DRED estimates costs related to office establishment and support, website design, publications and marketing efforts would be \$15,000 in FY 2018 and each year thereafter.

DRED is unable to estimate the number of businesses or graduates that would participate in the

program to determine how much money it would need to include in its future budget requests.

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Resources and Economic Development