



New Hampshire School Boards Association
25 Triangle Park Drive, Suite 101
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 228-2061
(603) 228-2351 (fax)
Barrett M. Christina, Deputy Executive Director
bchristina@nhsba.org

NHSBA Legislative Update – March 24, 2017

HB 210: An act relative to a code of ethics for certified educational personnel. This bill authorizes the state board of education to adopt rules establishing a code of ethics for certified educational personnel.

This bill was heard by the Senate Education Committee on March 21, 2017. NHSBA did not testify on this bill, but did sign in support. The sponsor testified that this bill is not intended to interfere with local employment matters. Rather, the bill adds conditions tied to teacher certification by the NH Department of Education.

The Senate Education Committee entered executive session and voted OUGHT TO PASS by a vote of 5-0.

HB 216: An act relative to educational assignments for pupils who have been suspended. This bill requires a school to make educational assignments available to a suspended pupil during the period of suspension.

This bill was heard by the Senate Education Committee on March 21, 2017. The current version of HB 216 is amended from the bill as introduced. As introduced, this bill would have prohibited school districts from suspending students in kindergarten through grade 2. However, testimony before the House Education Committee indicated that there have been no students in these grades that have been suspended. As such, the bill was amended to require school districts to offer educational “assignments” to the student during the period of suspension. Educational “assignments” are intended to mean homework, lessons, coursework and so forth.

The Senate Education Committee entered executive session and voted OUGHT TO PASS by a vote of 5-0.

HB 122: An act relative to withdrawal from a cooperative school district. This bill amends the procedure for withdrawal from a cooperative school district. This bill was heard by the Senate Education Committee on March 21, 2017. This bill, as introduced, sought to amend the

cooperative school district withdrawal statute by amending RSA 195:25 only require a majority vote in the town seeking to withdraw. Current law requires that the vote of a town to withdraw from a cooperative school district shall be undertaken by the cooperative district and that such vote must receive a majority district-wide. NHSBA opposed the bill as introduced.

An amendment was offered and passed by the House Education Committee. The amendment sought to clarify the initial process for studying withdrawal. NHSBA supported this amendment, as it clarified and simplified various aspects of current law.

Following discussion of this bill, the Senate Education Committee entered executive session and voted 5-0 to re-refer the bill to itself – meaning the bill will remain in the Senate Education Committee pending further action. General sentiment of the Senate Education Committee was to retain the bill, meaning it can be re-introduced next legislative session. Members of the Senate Education Committee also commented that they believe the Legislative Study Commission on cooperative school districts should submit its final report (due November 2017) before the Legislature takes action.

HB 103: An act relative to school district policies regarding objectionable course material. This bill requires school districts to provide advanced notice to parents and legal guardians of course material involving discussion of human sexuality or human sexual education. NHSBA previously testified against this bill when it was heard before the House Education Committee in January.

The Senate Education Committee entered executive session on March 21, 2017 and voted OUGHT TO PASS by a vote of 3-2.

HB 275: An act prohibiting the inclusion of statewide assessment results in a student's transcript without consent. This bill provides that a student's statewide assessment results shall not be a part of a student's transcript. NHSBA did not testify on this bill and has no position on this matter.

The Senate Education Committee entered executive session on March 21, 2017 and voted OUGHT TO PASS by a vote of 5-0.