

AFT-NH Legislative Bulletin (January 23, 2026)

Attack on Public Employees – Action Needed

[HB 1704](#), a bill which would erode public employees' bargaining rights (except police, fire, and corrections officers) and effectively bust most public sector unions is scheduled for hearing this Tuesday, January 27th at 3:15 pm before the House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee.

The bill would allow individual employees to bargain individually even when a union contract is in place. This is intended to weaken the union and the rights of the members it represents. Employees doing the same jobs will fall under different work conditions and pay structure. Employers will need more HR personnel, legal advice, and expose the employers and taxpayers to litigation. In short, it will create chaos in public sector workplaces across the state. **AFT-NH opposes this bill**

Please take these two actions:

Click [No to HB 1704](#) to send your opposition to the House Labor Committee

Testify remotely at [this link](#)

Look Ahead to Next Week

Legislative hearings continue next week as they tackle the over 1000 bills filed this session. The pace is fast and furious. Our complete tracker is once again provided at the end of this update with the AFT-NH position for each bill and the time and date of hearing.

[HB 1816](#), a bill that allows the Department of Education take over a school district AND allows them to re-negotiate your contracts and reallocate resources. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

School Safety

[HB 1034](#), prohibits the possession of a firearm in school -important for the safety of our school employees and our local police. **AFT-NH supports this bill.**

Expanded Vouchers and Weakening of the University System

[HB 1774](#), directs New Hampshire to be enrolled in the new federal school voucher program while also prohibiting the University system from spending state funds determined to have low learning outcomes. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

Restoring Retirement System Funding

[SB 601](#), restores the cuts to the pension system the state made over a decade ago, forcing the state to pay its share of retirement and delivering actual property tax relief without cuts in services. Let's remember the state used to pay 35% of this cost but then pushed the entire expense back to local communities. **AFT-NH supports this bill.**

Firearms and Schools Recap

There were a number of bills heard last week regarding firearms in schools and hunter and gun safety training in schools. You can read the testimony submitted by AFT-NH here:

<https://nh.aft.org/sites/state-house-news>

[SB 463](#) Prohibits carrying a firearm in a safe school zone. **AFT-NH supports this bill.**

[HB 1122](#) Requires all high school students to learn about hunting, wildlife management, and responsible firearms usage. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

[HB 1830](#) Requiring firearm safety education in all public schools. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

Please see the AFT-NH list of bills we are following and that are scheduled for hearings next week.