

AFT-NH Legislative Bulletin (January 16, 2026)

Spending Cap Resurfaces in Another Form

HB 1300 was originally slated to be a mid-decade congressional redistricting bill, However, the NH House GOP not accepting the solid defeat of HB 675 last week, is making another attempt to impose state-mandated local spending caps stripping communities of local control and ignoring the will of the voters in towns and school districts across NH. A non-germane amendment has been introduced to replace the bill entirely to accomplish this. Amendment to HB 1300 The NH Supreme Court issued an advisory opinion in 1999 stating that such a scheme would be contrary to Part I, Article 28 of the NH Constitution. You can read Opinion of the Justices, Tax Plan Referendum, March 11, 1999 [here](#). **AFT-NH Opposes the bill and amendment.**

Vouchers and Open Enrollment

SB 581 Removes the cap on the school voucher program. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

SB 101 Creates an open enrollment system in New Hampshire. If you need more information on what open enrollment is please check out this fact sheet from Reaching Higher. **AFT-NH opposes this bill.**

Firearms and Schools

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.**

Attack on Public Employees

HB 1704, a bill which is coming for your collective bargaining rights and effectively bust most public sector unions will be scheduled very soon and we will send out a separate red alert. This will be a fight of epic proportion to maintain your protections as a member of your union and preserve the protections of your contract and working conditions. Together, we will stop them.

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

Staying Informed and Taking Action

1. Please share our legislative bulletins with others.
2. Please visit our website at <https://nh.aft.org/> and sign up for the bulletins if you have not done so.
3. Do the one-click actions when an alert is sent out.
4. You can register your position on a bill directly to the House or Senate Committee hearing the bill. For instructions and the links, please see below.
5. For breaking news and other legislative information, please be sure to like us on Facebook at [AFT New Hampshire](#) or follow us on Bluesky at aftnh.bsky.social.

Remember, when we fight, we win. It will be a long legislative session but we will not let the anti-public education and anti-worker forces prevail.

Thank you.

[Testify on a House Bill](#)

[Testify on a Senate Bill](#)

AFT-NH Legislative Hearings

Week of January 19, 2026

Date	Time	Location	Bill	Meeting Description	AFT-NH Position	Sponsors	Title	Committee
Jan 20, 2026	9:15 AM	SL, Room Map Room	SB 429	Hearing	Neutral	Prentiss Watters Fenton	Title: relative to the placement of trauma kits in public schools and making an appropriation therefor.	Senate Education
Jan 20, 2026	9:30 AM	SL, Room Map Room	SB 432	Hearing	Neutral	Ruth Ward Innis Watters	Title: authorizing the application of sunscreen in schools and camps without a	Senate Education

							doctor's note or prescription and establishing a skin cancer prevention education program.	
Jan 20, 2026	10:00 AM	SH, Room 122-123	SB 514	Hearing	Oppose	Keith Murphy Avard Carson	Title: preventing ballot questions concerning alterations to municipal tax caps from being altered by local legislative bodies.	Senate Election Law and Municipal Affairs
Jan 20, 2026	10:00 AM	SL, Room Map Room	SB 577	Hearing	Neutral	Perkins Kwoka Altschiller Spier	Title: prohibiting the use of specific color additives in meals offered or made available by public schools.	Senate Education
Jan 20, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 159	HB 1352	Executive Session	Support	MacKenzie	Title: relative to payment and dispute resolution for medical bills under workers compensation.	==REVISED== House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Jan 20, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 159	HB 1767	Executive Session	Oppose	Avellani Labrie Drago	Title: relative to unemployment compensation eligibility and weekly benefit amounts.	==REVISED== House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Jan 20, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1714	Hearing	Neutral	Markell Korzen Wayne MacDonald	Title: authorizing the state to issue bonds to fund public school	House Education Funding

							expenses.
Jan 20, 2026	10:15 AM	SL, Room Map Room	SB 578	Hearing	Oppose	Victoria Sullivan Pearl Carson	Title: extending recess for students from kindergarten to eighth grade and prohibiting the deprivation of recess time as punishment in schools. Senate Education
Jan 20, 2026	10:15 AM	GP, Room 158	HB1300	Non Germane Admendment Hearing	Oppose	Berry	Title: changing the state's congressional districts. House Election Law
Jan 20, 2026	10:20 AM	GP, Room 234	HB 1452	Hearing	Oppose	Ankarberg Prout Lang	Title: relative to parent-taught driver education as an alternative to traditional driver education programs. ==REVISED== House Transportation
Jan 20, 2026	10:30 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1826	Hearing	Neutral	Ladd	Title: relative to the cost of an opportunity for an adequate education. House Education Funding
Jan 20, 2026	11:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1831	Hearing	Support	Chretien Cornell Damon	Title: repealing the education trust fund targeted aid cap. House Education Funding
Jan 20, 2026	11:30 AM	GP, Room 159	HB 1150	Hearing	Support	Stephen Pearson	Title: requiring disclosure of complaints to public employees within 5 business days. House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Jan 20, 2026	11:45 AM	GP, Room	HB 1104	Hearing	Neutral	Hill Kofalt	Title: modifying the priority of House Education

2026	232				Notter	applications for school building aid grants.	Funding
Jan 20, 2026	1:00 PM	GP, Room 232	HB 1827	Hearing	Neutral Ladd	Title: establishing a grant program to support school districts extraordinary needs and fiscal capacity disparities relative to providing an adequate education.	House Education Funding
Jan 20, 2026	1:00 PM	SH, Room 103	SB 600	Hearing	Neutral Gray Rosenwald	Title: requiring the governor to submit and present a quarterly fiscal year budget report about the general and education trust funds to the general court fiscal committee.	==AMENDED= Senate Finance
Jan 20, 2026	1:30 PM	GP, Room 232	HB 1799	Hearing	Support Ames Luneau Damon	Title: relative to required state funding for providing an opportunity for an adequate education.	House Education Funding
Jan 20, 2026	1:55 PM	SH, Room 100	SB 463	Hearing	Support Fenton Pat Long Rosenwald	Title: relative to possession of firearms in safe school zones.	Senate Judiciary
Jan 20, 2026	2:10 PM	SH, Room	SB 101	Hearing	Oppose Lang Innis	Title: authorizing	==AMENDED=

2026		103				Gray	parents to enroll their children in any public school in the state.	=Senate Finance
Jan 21, 2026	9:10 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 569	Hearing	Neutral	Birdsell	Title: relative to the qualifications for hearings officers within the department of labor.	==AMENDED= =Senate Executive Departments and Administration
Jan 21, 2026	9:30 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 420	Hearing	Neutral	Ruth Ward	Title: relative to the state commission for human rights.	==AMENDED= =Senate Executive Departments and Administration
Jan 21, 2026	10:20 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1635	Hearing	Neutral	Litchfield Drye Kuttab	Title: modifying the requirements of suicide prevention education policies in schools.	House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 21, 2026	10:40 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1448	Hearing	Oppose	Morse	Title: prohibiting the use of the World Economic Forum materials within state curriculum.	House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 21, 2026	11:00 AM	GP, Room 154	HB 1546	Hearing	Oppose	Ankarberg Tom Mannion Warden	Title: repealing the business profits tax.	==REVISED== House Ways and Means
Jan 21, 2026	11:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1307	Hearing	Neutral	Luneau Lynn Petrigno	Title: establishing a statutory commission to study the development of a statewide	House Education Policy and Administration

							comprehensive civics curriculum.
Jan 21, 2026	1:00 PM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1830</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Roy Sabourin dit Choinière	Title: requiring firearm safety education in all public schools. <u>House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 21, 2026	1:30 PM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1122</u>	Hearing	Oppose	McFarlane Spillane Wherry	Title: requiring all high school students to learn about hunting, wildlife management, and responsible firearms usage. <u>House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 21, 2026	2:00 PM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1834</u>	Hearing	Support	Weinstein Bricchi Megan Murray	Title: relative to the education freedom account enrollment cap. <u>House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 21, 2026	2:30 PM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1716</u>	Hearing	Support	Bricchi Fellows Muriel Hall	Title: relative to the academic accountability of education freedom accounts. <u>House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 21, 2026	3:00 PM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1264</u>	Hearing	Support	Balboni Cornell Muriel Hall	Title: increasing the requirements of the education freedom savings account oversight committee and modifying the purpose of the committee. <u>House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 158	<u>HB 1791</u>	Hearing	Neutral	Burton	Title: directing the department of education to establish a grant program at the post-secondary <u>==REVISED== House Education Funding</u>

Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1055</u>	Executive Session	Neutral	Litchfield Nadeau Miner	educational level for individuals with developmental disabilities, and making an appropriation therefor.	
							Title: granting the state board of education rulemaking authority relative to student use of cell phones and personal communication devices in schools.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1129</u>	Executive Session	Support	Muriel Hall Balboni Cornell	Title: authorizing superintendents or their designee to allow limited use of personal laptops and tablets in schools and establishing that such use is exempted under school cell phone use policies.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1264</u>	Executive Session	Support	Balboni Cornell Muriel Hall	Title: increasing the requirements of the education freedom savings account oversight committee and modifying the purpose of the	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>

committee.

Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1270</u>	Executive Session	Oppose	Drye Nadeau Notter	Title: clarifying the definition of part-time teacher.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1307</u>	Executive Session	Monitor	Luneau Lynn Petrigno	Title: establishing a statutory commission to study the development of a statewide comprehensive civics curriculum.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1341</u>	Executive Session	Monitor	Luneau Damon	Title: establishing a committee to investigate the department of education's actions regarding school administrative unit 6.	
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1373</u>	Executive Session	Monitor	Litchfield Nadeau Thibault	Title: relative to background check disqualifications for applicants seeking educator credentials.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1402</u>	Executive Session	Support	Damon Cloutier Fellows	Title: relative to credentials for the position of superintendent of schools.	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1403</u>	Executive Session	Support	Damon Ebel Balboni	Title: relative to credentials for the position of school business	<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and</u>

							administrator.	Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1448	Executive Session	Oppose	Morse	Title: prohibiting the use of the World Economic Forum materials within state curriculum.	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1507	Executive Session	Monitor	Megan Murray Harriott-Gathright	Title: requiring schools to provide a minimum amount of time for recess per day.	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1635	Executive Session	Monitor	Litchfield Drye Kuttab	Title: modifying the requirements of suicide prevention education policies in schools.	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1716	Executive Session	Support	Bricchi Fellows Muriel Hall	Title: relative to the academic accountability of education freedom accounts.	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1819	Executive Session	Support	Bricchi Luneau Altschiller	Title: relative to review of education freedom account service providers.	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	HB 1820	Executive Session	Support	Luneau Damon Cornell	Title: requiring the department of education to administer the education freedom account	==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration

							program.
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1823</u>	Executive Session	Support	Damon Girard Luneau	Title: requiring every school, school district, and school administrative unit to produce independent audits and financial reports to be posted publicly and sent to the department of education and the department of revenue administration.
							<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1832</u>	Executive Session	Oppose	Morse	Title: adding students with parents on active military duty to the education freedom accounts priority guidelines.
							<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HB 1834</u>	Executive Session	Support	Weinstein Bricchi Megan Murray	Title: relative to the education freedom account enrollment cap.
							<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
Jan 22, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 232	<u>HR 43</u>	Executive Session	Monitor	Wilhelm	Title: recognizing the Manchester school district's community partners.
							<u>==REVISED== House Education Policy and Administration</u>
1/22/26	10:10 AM	SH, Room 103	<u>SB 513</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Abbas Innis Watters	Title: requiring schools to engage an owner's project manager for construction of
							<u>Senate Education Finance</u>

							school building aid projects at the time of application.
Jan 22, 2026	10:20 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 491	Hearing	Neutral	Watters Lang McGough	Title: enabling students to utilize education freedom account funds to pay for certain career and technical education funding. Senate Education Finance
Jan 22, 2026	10:30 AM	GP, Room 158	HB 1835	Hearing	Support	Raymond Damon Gregg	Title: relative to the formula for distribution of aid to school districts. ==REVISED== House Education Funding
Jan 22, 2026	10:40 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 582	Hearing	Support	Altschiller Rosenwald Watters	Title: modifying the base cost of an adequate education. Senate Education Finance
Jan 22, 2026	10:55 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 507	Hearing	Neutral	Keith Murphy Victoria Sullivan Avard	Title: relative to the financial obligation of a school district concerning students expelled for committing assault against a school staff member. Senate Education Finance
Jan 22, 2026	11:00 AM	GP, Room 158	HB 1202	Hearing	Neutral	Ladd Popovici-Muller Peeples	Title: relative to dual and concurrent enrollment requirements for courses at institutions within the community ==REVISED== House Education Funding

							college system of New Hampshire.	
Jan 22, 2026	11:00 AM	GP, Room 228	HB 1767	Subcommittee Work Session	Oppose	Avellani Labrie Drago	Title: relative to unemployment compensation eligibility and weekly benefit amounts.	House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services
Jan 22, 2026	11:10 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 583	Hearing	Neutral	Lang Pat Long McGough	Title: directing the department of education to create an education funding transparency data and reporting system.	Senate Education Finance
Jan 22, 2026	11:25 AM	SH, Room 103	SB 581	Hearing	Oppose	Victoria Sullivan Noble	Title: modifying education freedom account (EFA) eligibility and removing priority guidelines and the enrollment cap relative to EFA eligibility.	Senate Education Finance
Jan 22, 2026	11:30 AM	GP, Room 158	HB 1503	Hearing	Neutral	Ladd Popovici-Muller Peoples	Title: allowing the department of education to allocate funds to create a database of maps of public schools for emergency use cases.	==REVISED== House Education Funding
Jan 23, 2026	9:35 AM	GP, Room 154	HB 1134	Hearing	Oppose	Pauer Berezghny DeRoy	Title: relative to the town meeting form of local	House Municipal and County Government

governance.

Jan 23, 2026	10:00 AM	GP, Room 154	<u>HB 1427</u>	Hearing	Neutral	McFarlane Corcoran Berry	Title: limiting the authority of a municipality, county, or school district to issue bonds.	<u>House Municipal and County Government</u>
Jan 23, 2026	10:20 AM	GP, Room 154	<u>HB 1224</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Dunn Alexander Ankarberg	Title: relative to the default budget for official ballot town meetings.	<u>House Municipal and County Government</u>
Jan 23, 2026	10:45 AM	GP, Room 154	<u>HB 1575</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Boehm Rice Lascelles	Title: relative to the determination of the default budget by the budget committee.	<u>House Municipal and County Government</u>
Jan 23, 2026	11:15 AM	GP, Room 154	<u>HB 1355</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Noble Ammon Aures	Title: relative to eliminating the default budget from the official ballot referenda.	<u>House Municipal and County Government</u>
Jan 23, 2026	1:15 PM	GP, Room 154	<u>HB 1505</u>	Hearing	Oppose	Pauer Ammon Girard	Title: requiring municipalities, towns, and cities to submit documentation to the department of revenue administration proving they are in compliance with local budget and tax caps.	<u>House Municipal and County Government</u>
Jan 23, 2026	2:00 PM	GP, Room	<u>HB 1131</u>	Hearing	Neutral	Pauer Aylward	Title: relative to the official ballot	<u>House Municipal and County</u>

