Bill as Introduced

2001 SESSION

01-0124
04/09

HOUSE BILL ***708-FN***

AN ACT relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

SPONSORS: Rep. Weyler, Rock 18; Rep. Rabideau, Rock 16

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill changes the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education to include children who are at least 6 years of age and under 18 years of age. This bill also provides that home schooled pupils shall not be denied access to programs of study, instructional programs, or cocurricular programs offered by the pupil's school district. The bill also provides that local school boards may establish policies regulating access to a school's programs of study, instructional programs, or cocurricular programs provided such policies are not more restrictive than those imposed upon a school district's resident pupils.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

HB 708-FN – AS INTRODUCED

01-0124
04/09

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand One

AN ACT relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

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

1 Pupils; School Attendance; Dual Enrollment; Access by Home Educated Pupils. Amend RSA 193:1-a, II to read as follows:

II. Nonpublic or home educated[~~,~~] resident [~~students~~] ***pupils*** shall [~~be eligible to attend curricular, public school courses subject to local board policy~~] ***have access to programs of study, instructional programs, and cocurricular programs offered by the public school district in which the pupil resides. The local school board may adopt policies regulating such access provided that such policies shall not be more restrictive than those imposed upon a school district's resident pupils. In this section, "cocurricular" shall include those activities which are designed to supplement and enrich regular academic programs of study, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community.***

2 Home Education; Definition of "Child". Amend RSA 193-A:1, I to read as follows:

I. "Child" means a child or children at least 6 years of age and under [~~16~~] ***18*** years of age who is a resident of New Hampshire.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

LBAO
01-0124
2/14/01

HB 708-FN - FISCAL NOTE

AN ACT relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to the public school programs by home educated pupils.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to complete a fiscal note for this bill as it is awaiting information from an agency.

Amendments

Rep. Winter, Merr. 2
Rep. Sova, Graf. 11
March 28, 2001
2001-0578h
04/01

Failed

Amendment to HB 708-FN

Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

AN ACT relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

1 Pupils; School Attendance; Dual Enrollment; Access by Home Educated Pupils. Amend RSA 193:1-a, II to read as follows:

II. Nonpublic or home educated[~~,~~] resident [~~students~~] ***pupils*** shall [~~be eligible to attend curricular, public school courses subject to local board policy~~] ***have access to programs of study, instructional programs, and cocurricular programs offered by the public school district in which the pupil resides. The local school board may adopt policies regulating such access provided that such policies shall not be more restrictive than those imposed upon a school district's resident pupils. In this section, "cocurricular" shall include those activities which are designed to supplement and enrich regular academic programs of study, provide opportunities for social development, and encourage participation in clubs, athletics, performing groups, and service to school and community. For purposes of allowing access as described in this section, "home educated resident pupil" includes a minor no longer subject to compulsory attendance under RSA 193:1.***

2 New Paragraph; Dual Enrollment; Home Educated Pupils. Amend RSA 193:1-a by inserting after paragraph II the following new paragraph:

III. Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a parent to establish a home education program which exceeds the requirements of RSA 193:1.

3 Cooperative School Districts; Status of Home Educated Pupils Amended. Amend RSA 195:7 to read as follows:

195:7 Costs of Capital Outlay and Operation.

[~~I.~~] If a cooperative school district was organized prior to July 1, 1963, during the first 5 years after the formation of a cooperative school district each preexisting district shall pay its share of all capital outlay costs and operational costs in accordance with either one of the following formulas as determined by a majority vote of the cooperative district meeting:

[~~(a)~~] ***I.*** All such costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the ratio that the equalized

valuation of each preexisting district bears to that of the cooperative district; or

[~~(b)~~] *II.* One-half of all such costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the ratio that the equalized valuation of each preexisting district bears to that of the cooperative district and 1/2 shall be apportioned on the average daily membership for the preceding year.

[~~(c)~~] *III.* Some other formula offered by the cooperative school board with the board's recommendation, adopted by the cooperative school district and approved by the state board of education.

~~[II. Home education pupils who do not receive services from the cooperative school district, membership relative to apportionment formulas.]~~

~~Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:~~

4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

2001-0578h

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill provides that home educated pupils shall not be denied access to programs of study, instructional programs, or cocurricular programs offered by the pupil's school district and that local school boards may establish policies regulating access to a school's programs of study, instructional programs, or cocurricular programs provided such policies are not more restrictive than those imposed upon a school district's resident pupils. The bill also provides that home educated pupils shall be counted in the average daily membership in residence in a cooperative school district.

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # 708-FN Date 3-21-01

Committee Education

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con
Sheila Bergeron	7 Sarah's Way Newton	382-1011		✓	
Brenda Bielobaltz	4 Kenlen Lane Kingston, NH 603-4546			✓	

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 708-FN

BILL TITLE: relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

DATE: March 21, 2001

LOB ROOM: 207 **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:00 a.m.

Time Adjourned: 11:30 a.m.

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. Henderson, Ward, Dearborn, Flint, P. Davis, Alger, Cox, Sullivan, Carson, Colcord, Sova, Winter, S. L'Heureux, Yeaton, Snyder, C. Jean, Estabrook, J. White, C. Clarke and Naro

Bill Sponsors: Reps. Weyler and Rabideau

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

REP. KENNETH WEYLER (Sponsor): I support this bill. The present law allows private students. It is a re-definition of "child". The problem would be that 17 or 18 year olds would not be eligible to have access for advanced classes from the public school, when the home-schooling parent didn't have the background.

REP. JOHN ALGER: I received an email from Scott Woodruff who is against this bill.

REP. WEYLER: This is permissive law. The fear is once the child reaches 16 years old, they will be compelled to continue and some home-schoolers are afraid of a mandate.

REP. STEVEN WINTER: Can an amendment be made to accommodate the fear of mandate?

HON. DAVID WHEELER (Board of Governors, NH Christian Home Educators): I support the philosophy, but do have a concern about the possible interpretation of there being a mandate.

REP. BRIEN WARD: Are you aware of any problems with home-schoolers attending public schools and services for certain situations?

DR. JOANNE BAKER (NH Dept. of Education): I oppose the age section because 191-A covers until age 21 years old and I support the concept of home-schoolers having access to public schools.

REP. IRIS ESTABROOK: The co-curricular authority seems mandated?

CHAIRMAN WARREN HENDERSON: Can you decode this situation?

DR. BAKER: The local district needs to have some clear-cut policy.

MS. CLAIRE EBEL (NHCLU): I support the bill with some concerns. We champion the rights of home-schoolers. We have no position on the age. If you want a constitutional balance, an expansion of this issue would be to make it "may" instead of "shall". A mandate is necessary to keep home-schoolers from being discriminated against.

REP. WINTER: This bill says pupils shall have access.

REP. WARD: Is there any common complaint from home-schoolers?

MS. EBEL: The most common response is lack of awareness of the statute that requires service to home-schoolers.

REP. ESTABROOK: What if a class if full? Who gets the preference?

MS. EBEL: No one. All students have to follow the same admission rules.

MR. MARK JOYCE (NH School Admin. Assoc.): I oppose this bill. I support home education, but not this bill. 1) The statute already protects age. 2) Could be counter-productive. There has been a decrease in these problems. As more language is created, what happens to the access issue? What is more restrictive? Does this require more oversight of the school over home schooling? If a student in home education must meet the same standards, does that mean the environment must be matched and who oversees it? We leave it the same.

REP. GORDON FLINT: Do you feel this legislation is necessary?

MR. JOYCE: No

MS. PAMELA HALLACK: I support this bill. My district has been very restrictive toward home-schoolers access. If you are 16 years old, you can't participate.

REP. WARD: What was your concern in your situation?

MS. HALLACK: Home-schoolers seem to be the fear of unfair advantage in co-curricular programs because home-schoolers had motives to practice.

REP. PERLELY DAVIS: What would NHIA have if you recruited home-schoolers for special teams?

*MR. MIKE COMPITELLO (CHENH): These new bills do pose a problem. HB 708 adds access and includes a statement. This would diminish the home-schoolers ability to participate. He submitted written testimony.

REP. ALGER: Are the home-schoolers divided on this legislation?

MR. COMPITELLO: No really. Incidents of denial are rare.

*MS. DEBORAH WILLIAMSON: I support this bill. My district was forced to change its position on home schooling. The school superintendent indicated that the age of 16 was a cut off for advanced class placement. She submitted written testimony.

HON. WHEELER: School districts count home-schoolers in their head count. We should be able to get services.

REP. RUSSELL COX: When you count students, how is ADM measured?

MR. JAMES PARISON, JR. (CHENH): I oppose this bill. The 17 and 18 year issue seems to be discrimination against home-schoolers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rep. Bruce Dearborn, Clerk

HB 708-FN PINK CARDS:

IN SUPPORT:
Rep. K. Weyler (Sponsor), Rock 18
Hon. Dave Wheeler, 523 Mason Road, Milford, NH representing Board of Governors & NH Christian Home Educators
Claire Ebel, 18 Low Avenue, Concord, NH representing NHCLU
Pamela Hallock, 52 Pond St., Newton, NH
Deborah Williamson, 9 Pillsbury , Kingston, NH

IN OPPOSITION:
James Parison, Jr., 40 Old Rindge Rd, New Ipswich, NH representing CHENH
Mark Joyce, representing NH SAU Admin. Association
Dr. Joanne Baker, 101 Pleasant St., Concord, NH representing NH Dept. of Education

NO COMMITMENT:
Mike Compitello, 72 Birkdale Rd., Bedford, NH representing CHENH

Testimony

March 21, 2001

Dear Committee Members:

In examining HB 631, addressing access to public school programs by home educated pupils and HB 708 which incorporates the proposed language of HB 631 and further proposes that the definition of "child" to include children under the age of 18, several concerns arise:

1. The language in HB 708 will suddenly sweep all 16 and 17 year olds into the definition of "child" as it relates to home schooled children.

    - The current language of RSA 193-A:1 which HB 708 seeks to modify is purposely consistent with the compulsory attendance language of Section 193:1 under Title XV of the Education statute.
    - Parents would be subject to a series of requirements listed in Sections 193-A:6 and A:7 for their 16 and 17 year old children, not otherwise subject to this law by the current definition of "child."
    - Continued testing, reporting, record keeping, and inspection for 16 and 17 year old children will not add to the quality of education or in any way serve the interests of the State of New Hampshire or of the home schooling community at large.

2. HB 631 does not in and of itself raise a concern, except by those constituents who seek to gain access for their 16 and 17 year old home schooled children under this language. The minor change suggested below as an addition to the language of HB 631 would solve the concern of these constituents as well as eliminate the need for HB 708 or any change in the definition of "child."

    "For purposes of allowing access as described in this section, "home educated resident pupil" includes a minor no longer subject to compulsory attendance who was previously educated pursuant to Chapter 193-A."

    - This modification to the proposed language in HB 631 would eliminate any possible confusion with compulsory attendance language without adding potentially new requirements and burdens to home schooling parents or that does not add to the quality of education that home schooled children are now receiving.

Alternatively, we are opposed to any change in the law at this time because of the possible implications of extending, and confusion with, the Compulsory Education law and the requirements that would extend to 16 and 17 year old home schooled children.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Compitello. Esq.

(Member of CHENH- Christian Home Educators of NH)

March 20, 2001

Dear Committee Member,

My name Is Deborah Williamson. I am the mother of a home-schooled ninth grade child. Like many other home-school parents, I felt home schooling was the most viable option with regards to my child's education. He is extremely intelligent and is gifted in math; and, like many of the public schools today, our school district was unable or unwilling to meet his needs. The administration was willing to transport him to the high school every day for math; but, in my opinion, which is shared by several of his teachers, this would have been very disruptive to him.

Home schooling met my son's academic needs, but it would mean that he could no longer participate in any of the other programs our district offered (our district's home schooling policy denied all access to any curricular, co-curricular and extra curricular activities).

For years parents of home schoolers had tried to change this policy, prompting me to talk to Rachel Hopkins. She advised me of a final report (enclosed) that had been prepared by a committee, which studied the access of home school students to public school facilities and program study (HB 1247 Chapter 34:1, Laws of 1998), and sent to all the districts. She respectfully sent me a copy.

When a few parents including myself presented the *Final Report* to the school board, the board sought legal council re: the current policy and was advised they should change it. Unfortunately the board was only willing to allow the home schoolers to participate in just one curricular course. We felt this was still too restrictive so we authored a petitioned warrant article. The voters overwhelmingly supported our article. It was at this point that the school board realized that they needed to re-evaluate their policy and therefore decided to set up a Home Schooling Committee.

I had the privilege of being on the Home Schooling Committee. With a lot of resistance we were finally successful in changing the policy. It also made me aware of many things. I had spoken to many administrators from different districts and soon found out that those districts had different interpretations of the laws concerning home-schoolers.

The one I found most disturbing is when our Superintendent, Dr. James Weiss, informed the Home Schooling Committee that the home education statue, RSA 193-A:1 defines child, for the purposes of home education, as a child between the ages of 6 and 16. Thus his conclusion was that once a child turned 16, any home schooling policy our district adopted would no longer apply for those children 16 and older. He further stated that he was not the only superintendent who shared this interpretation and that there were students being denied access to programs once they turned 16.

I called Representative Wyler and spoke to him concerning this matter. I believe the way the duel enrollment law is written, it has been interpreted by a few that a home educated child 16 or older can be excluded on the basis that they are no longer covered by the home education statue. It is my understanding that this statue was based on the old compulsory attendance law. I think this is clearly unjust and needs to be addressed.

I believe that the definition of child must be changed and the duel enrollment law needs to be clarified. The parents of home schooled children are paying their taxes that

support these programs. To discriminate a child just because they are home schooled in my opinion is unjust. I believe it is the duty of the legislature to change the laws so each district can not interpret them to suit their personal bias.

I also want to stress that I do not want any further restrictions for home shoolers, or that there be more regulations for them. Home schoolers have to abide by a much higher standard than public school children. Currently when a home schooled child turns 16, they are no longer required to keep records or portfolios and be accountable to any one. I would hope this would not change except unless it was required for a child wanting to participate in sports or any other program where this may be necessary.

In conclusion let's remember that we are the *Live Free or Die* State. It is not my intent to make more regulations or restrictions for home schoolers but to make sure administrators can not take advantage of the way a law is written to suit their own personal prejudices.

Sincerely,

Deborah Williamson
9 Pillsbury Pasture Rd.
Kingston, NH 03848
603 642 3034

HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS' ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS STUDY
(HB 1247, Chapter 34:1, Laws of 1998)

September 1998

Final Report

The committee finds that current access by homeschoolers to public school facilities and programs, including but not limited to, facilities and programs for art, music and science varies depending on the school district. A 1995 study completed by the Department of Education showed that (with 46 of 67 SAUs responding) 5 school districts completely prohibited any homeschooler access. Remaining respondents reported extremely diverse policies, including some with "open door" policies.

⇒ There are two statutes which the committee finds relevant to this issue: (1) 189:1-a **Duty to Provide Education**, which states, "It shall be the duty of the school board to provide, at district expense, elementary and secondary education to all pupils who reside in the district..."; and (2) 193:1-a II **Dual Enrollment**, which states, "Nonpublic or home educated, resident students shall be eligible to attend curricular, public school courses subject to local board policy."

Additionally, in the House Journal dated February 8, 1994, page 250, Rep. Karen K. Hutchinson wrote an *Ought to Pass* "blurb" for what was then HB 1109, relative to dual enrollment (which became RSA 193:1-a II), which states, "The committee believes that resident students enrolled in non-public schools or home-educated students should have the ability to utilize public school facilities within parameters set by local school board policy since the public schools are financially supported by the families of these students."

⇒ Therefore, the committee finds that legislative intent with regard to the **Dual Enrollment** statute was to require access by homeschoolers to public school facilities.

⇒ Further, the committee finds that local school board policy which prohibits access by homeschoolers to "curricular, public school courses" is unlawful. Reasonable parameters for access would be no more limiting for homeschooled students than for regularly enrolled students.

⇒ Since current law does provide for homeschooler access, the committee does not recommend legislation. The committee does recommend that the Department of Education send a copy of this report to all school boards, superintendents, and principals, as we feel that it is the desire of these public school officials to comply with the law.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee,

Representative Marie N. Rabideau, Chairman

Representative Susan J. Clay	Senator Gary R. Francoeur
Representative Elizabeth K. Hoadley	Senator John A. King
Representative Roland J. Lefebvre	Senator David K. Wheeler

To: The House of Education Committee
Re: House Bill 708

"Please vote against House Bill 708.
Changing the definition of 'child' could hurt home school families."
Thank you.
Minerva Castillo
Nashua, NH 03060

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 708-FN

BILL TITLE: **relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.**

DATE: April 3, 2001

LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. Steven Winter OLS Document #: 0578h Failed

Motions: (OTP), OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)
(ON AMENDMENT # 0578h)

Moved by Rep. Steven Winter
Seconded by Rep. Charles Sova
Vote: 10-10 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: (OTP), OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)
ON HB 708-FN

Moved by Rep. Charles Sova
Seconded by Rep. Steven Winter
Vote: 7-13 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: OTP, OTP/A, (ITL), Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Bruce Dearborn
Seconded by Rep. Clair Snyder
Vote: 13-7 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE: No

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce L. Dearborn

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 708-FN

BILL TITLE: **relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.**

DATE: 4-3-1

LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. Winters — OLS Document #: 0578H

Sponsor: Rep. — OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. — OLS Document #:

Motions: (OTP) OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.) OTP 0578H failed

Moved by Rep. Winters

Seconded by Rep. Sova

fail Vote: 10-10 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

Motions: (OTP) OTP/A, ITL, Interim Study (Please circle one.)

Moved by Rep. Sova

Seconded by Rep. Winters

fail Vote: 7-13 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

ITL
Murphy to Lose
Dearborn passed
Snyder - 13-7

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

(Vote to place on Consent Calendar must be unanimous.)

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

2001 SESSION

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** _____

PH Date: ___/___/___ **Exec Session Date:** 4/3/1

Motion: OTP - 0578H **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Henderson, Warren C, Chairman	✓	
Ward, Brien L, V Chairman	✓	
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk		✓
Flint, Gordon B	✓	
Davis, Perley E		✓
Alger, John R M	✓	
Cox, Russell N	✓	
Sullivan, P Judith	✓	
Carson, Sharon M	✓	
Colcord, J D	✓	
Sova, Charles E	✓	
Winter, Steven J	✓	
L'Heureux, Stephen R		✓
Yeaton, Charles B		✓
Snyder, Clair A		✓
Jean, Claudette R		✓
Estabrook, Iris W		✓
White, John M		✓
Clarke, Claire D		✓
Naro, Debra A		✓
	10Y	10N

TOTAL VOTE:

Printed: 3/14/2001

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

2001 SESSION

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** _____

PH Date: 1/1/ **Exec Session Date:** 4/3/1

Motion: OTP - 708 F.O fails **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Henderson, Warren C, Chairman	✓	
Ward, Brien L, V Chairman	✓	
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk		✓
Flint, Gordon B		✓
Davis, Perley E		✓
Alger, John R M	✓	
Cox, Russell N	✓	
Sullivan, P Judith	✓	
Carson, Sharon M		✓
Colcord, J D		✓
Sova, Charles E	✓	
Winter, Steven J	✓	
L'Heureux, Stephen R		✓
Yeaton, Charles B		✓
Snyder, Clair A		✓
Jean, Claudette R		✓
Estabrook, Iris W		✓
White, John M		✓
Clarke, Claire D		✓
Naro, Debra A		✓
	7Y —	13N

TOTAL VOTE:

Printed: 3/14/2001

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

2001 SESSION

EDUCATION

Bill #: _____ **Title:** _____

PH Date: ____/____/____ **Exec Session Date:** ____/____/____

Motion: ~~OTP~~ ITL — 708 **Amendment #:** _____

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
Henderson, Warren C, Chairman		✓
Ward, Brien L, V Chairman		✓
Dearborn, Bruce L, Clerk	✓	
Flint, Gordon B	✓	
Davis, Perley E	✓	
Alger, John R M		✓
Cox, Russell N		✓
Sullivan, P Judith		✓
Carson, Sharon M	✓	
Colcord, J D	✓	
Sova, Charles E		✓
Winter, Steven J		✓
L'Heureux, Stephen R	✓	
Yeaton, Charles B	✓	
Snyder, Clair A	✓	
Jean, Claudette R	✓	
Estabrook, Iris W	✓	
White, John M	✓	
Clarke, Claire D	✓	
Naro, Debra A	✓	
	13-4	7 N

TOTAL VOTE:

Printed: 3/14/2001

Committee Report

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Education**

BILL NUMBER: **HB 708-FN**

TITLE: relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

DATE: April 3, 2001 CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☐ OUGHT TO PASS

☐ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☒ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

This legislation would further clarify access to public school programs and facilities by home schooled students. Despite extensive discussion and attempts at amendment, the committee could not overcome doubt and confusion over the consequences of enacting the bill. A nearly identical bill was retained by the committee as a vehicle for pursuing clarification.

Vote 13-7.

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

Education

HB 708-FN, relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

Rep. Bruce L. Dearborn for Education: This legislation would further clarify access to public school programs and facilities by home schooled students. Despite extensive discussion and attempts at amendment, the committee could not overcome doubt and confusion over the consequences of enacting the bill. A nearly identical bill was retained by the committee as a vehicle for pursuing clarification. **Vote 13-7.**

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Education**

BILL NUMBER: **HB 708-FN**

TITLE: relative to the definition of "child" for the purposes of home education and relative to access to public school programs by home educated pupils.

DATE: 4-3-1 CONSENT CALENDAR YES ☐ NO ☒

☐ OUGHT TO PASS

☐ OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

☒ INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

☐ REFER TO COMMITTEE FOR INTERIM STUDY
(Available only in second year of biennium.)

STATEMENT OF INTENT
(Include Committee Vote)

Vote 13-7

Rep.
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

708

~~Dealt~~ ~~The committee recommends an amendment to the bill to change the age~~ The Committee felt that this bill was a subject that could be included with HB 631 that was slated to be retained in Committee

over

HB 1708

THIS LEGISLATION WOULD FURTHER CLARIFY ACCESS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES BY HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS. DESPITE EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION AND ATTEMPTS AT AMENDMENT THE COMMITTEE COULD NOT OVERCOME DOUBT AND CONFUSION OVER THE CONSEQUENCES OF ENACTING THE BILL. A NEARLY IDENTICAL BILL WAS RETAINED BY THE COMMITTEE AS A VEHICLE ~~FOR~~ FOR PURSUING CLARIFICATION. ~~AND~~ AN AMENDMENT WILL