Bill as Introduced

HB 54 - AS INTRODUCED

2003 SESSION

03-0018
04/09

HOUSE BILL ***54***

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

SPONSORS: Rep. M. Harrington, Straf 68; Rep. Easson, Straf 68; Rep. N. Johnson, Straf 68; Sen. Sapareto, Dist 19

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 54 – AS INTRODUCED

03-0018
04/09

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Three

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

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

1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

2 Membership and Compensation.

I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

(a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house.

(b) Three members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate

II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to the duties of the committee.

3 Duties. The committee shall:

I. Identify those public academies in this state which shall constitute the basis for its study.

II. Assess why such public academies are not eligible to receive school building aid grants and to investigate what changes in the law, if any, would render such public academies eligible for school building aid.

III. Determine what alternatives, if any, exist for such public academies if they cannot be made eligible to receive school building aid grants.

IV. Solicit input or information from the communities served by the public academies identified in paragraph I.

V. Solicit input from any other individual with information or expertise relevant to the committee's objectives.

4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate president, the house clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2003.

6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Speakers

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill # HB 54 Date 1/21/03

Committee ED

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

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	(check one) Pro	Con
~~Bradford V Ek~~	~~2 Pleasant St, Derry, NH~~	~~437-5237~~	~~Pinkerton~~ Academy	~~✓~~	
GEORGE N KATSAKIORES	1 BRADFORD ST. DERRY	434-9587			
Roberta N. Stearns	9 Old Pittsfield Rd Northwood	942-5774		✓	
Rep JOHN S. LANGONE	5 TRIGATO RD UNIT 69 DERRY NH			✓	
Rep Ron Dupuis	9 HUBBARD Hill Rd DERRY NH 03038			✓	✓
Rep Michael HARRINGTON	84 CARLSON RD STRAFFORD			✓	
Rep Bob LeTourneau	ROCK 77 DERRY			✓	

Hearing Minutes

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 54

BILL TITLE: **establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.**

DATE: **January 21, 2003**

LOB ROOM: **207** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **1:00 P.M.**

Time Adjourned: **1:48 P.M.**

(please circle if present)

Committee Members: Reps. L'Heureux, Alger, Dearborn, Flint, Carson, Colcord, Balboni, Leone, McHugh, Naro, Laurent, Tufts, M. Carter, Hagan, Ingbretson, Snyder, Claire Clarke, Jean, Rush, Scovner and J. Dunn.

Bill Sponsors: Rep. M. Harrington, Straf 68; Rep. Easson, Straf 68; Rep. N. Johnson, Straf 68; Sen. Sapareto, Dist 19

TESTIMONY

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

Rep Harrington – Rep. Dist 68
Not clear on building aid on private academies funded by taxpayer. Re: coe Brown and Pinkerton if regional public school, would receive 35% aid. Hope to set up study committee to examine if this is legal and how much it would cost.

Rep Colcord – What are public academies and why do they have them? Answer – Not for profit, run by trustees. To duplicate would be very expensive.

Rep Snyder – When district gets aid, district owns building. Would District own these buildings? Answer – Part of this committee duties would be to look at this situation. Do not have answer.

Rep Katsakiores – Supports. Long life resident of Derry and graduate if Pinkerton Academy. If you seen growths of school, you can understand situation. Served its purpose well. Should have some system of relief.

Judith Sanderson – President Coe-Brown Academy. Two contract towns do have voting ability and does supply a public education to all but three private tuition students. Have undertaken building expansion and renovation paid for by trust fund. But have lost 20% of funds. And do not have funds to cover bonds. It will be years till we have the funds to complete these projects.

Rep Leone – Do you have any stipends to offset buildings? Answer – No

Rep Snyder – What percent are from other districts?

Rep Carter – How are students placed in

Rep Balboni – Sounds like a total cost issue Answer – Two percent add on is all allowed by law and contract. Question – If you change contract, you could? Answer – We tried, but districts say no.

Rep Leone – Didn't they have private elementary school? Answer – Yes, it's a National Guard facility.

Rep Colcord – A Northwood and Strafford build a school are you out of business? Answer – Not necessarily.

Rep Dunne - Why wouldn't you want to? Answer – Community ties. Question – Public schools are drawing from Academy funds, looks advantageous. Answer – We do not control.

Rep Balboni – Why didn't they renegotiate? Answer – Money. The economy. Question – Why should state pay? Answer – Students from local communities, we are their local school.

Harry Fensom – Super SAU 44 – Supports. Is important, fair. Should do everything we can to ensure students attend quality schools.

Rep Colcord – What is your responsibility as a superintendent? Answer – No formal/ legal responsibility to Coe/Brown, but to work with C.B. to help students prepare for work.

Rep Alger – What about leasing concept? If leased, could not include cost of construction? Answer – Have to lease constructed building and we are willing to explore all possibilties.

Rep Laurent – Are you responsible for everything a Public school is? Answer – Yes

Bradford EK – Headmaster Pinkerton Academy. We have long term contracts with Derry, Chester and Auburn. We are able to build buildings because of higher student population. Buildings are built according to state codes. Building Aid is an add on to tuition, but our overall cost are lower. We would like building aid to decrease this move.

Rep Jean – What is jurisdiction of DOE? Answer - We have good relationship, follow state standards. We also have community access to our boards that informs the public..

Rep Ingrebret - What is advantage to Public Academy? Answer – Long term contracts approved by towns, we can bypass voting and get things done. Question – Trustees elect themselves Vs. Public vote? Answer – No Teachers union, have merit system. Question – These things are effective? Answer – Our system is designed not to be one lump sum, but ____ highly ranked people get raises.

Rep Alger - Sounds like successful formula. Why isn't yours a successful model? Answer – We get a good deal of mileage out of people who work at Pinkerton Academy and our students really support us.

Rep Dunne – How is tuition paid? Answer – Students are paid for by towns. Oct. 1 towns are billed for 50%, on Feb 1, 25%, April 25%. Towns are charged on daily rate.

Rep Leone – Is this only for 9-12? Answer – Pinkerton and Coe Brown are 9 –12. Question – What are we committing to? Answer – Grade 9-12

PINK CARDS

Rep Mike Harrington – Supports the bill. 942-8691. Represent Dist. 68

Rep George Katsakiores – Supports the bill. Bradford st., Derry NH. 603-434-9587. Represents Derry.

Judy Sanderson – Supports the bill. 51 Catamount Rd. Northwood NH, 03261. 942-8128. Represents Coe-Brown Northwood Academy.

Harry Fensom – Supports the bill. 52 Mooers Rd. NH. 2242501. Represents SAU #44

Bradford v. EK – 2mt Pleasant st. Derry NH 03038. 437-5237. Represents Pinkerton Academy.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Carson

Rep Sharon M. Carson
Committee Clerk

Testimony

LEGISLATIVE HEARING
JANUARY 21, 2003

Good afternoon. My name is Judy Sanderson and I am the current President of the Board of Trustees of Coe-Brown Northwood Academy. I appreciate this opportunity to testify before you in support of this bill today.

Coe-Brown Northwood Academy is a private school in Northwood, New Hampshire that provides the public students of nine local towns with their high school education. There are formal contracts with two school districts, Northwood and Strafford, and students from the other districts are accepted on a space available basis. Only three are private tuition students, the remaining 665 are paid for by the sending school districts. It is important to note that the two contract towns do have voting representation on the Education Committee of the Board of Trustees. This is the committee that is responsible, among other things, for hiring teachers, discipline, reviewing and expanding curriculum and approving recommendations for new or expanded programs. In essence, what this means is that although Coe-Brown is a private school it provides the public high school education for a significant number of towns and students.

The Board of Trustees, the administration, teachers and staff of the Academy are committed to providing these students from local communities with the quality education they need to successfully move into their post-secondary and adult lives. This includes providing the programs and facilities necessary to give them the required skills and education. Over the years the Academy has undertaken many building projects to expand facilities to meet needs based on growth of the student body and new programs of study. The cost of these building projects and renovations is close to five million dollars and we are in now undertaking another expansion with construction to begin this year. To date the Academy has borne the full cost of these projects by utilizing the income from our trust fund. The students from the local communities have been able to benefit from these projects without any cost to the sending town.

As with all investments, the income from our trust fund has dropped significantly in recent years. In the third quarter we lost approximately 20% in the value of the fund. We are currently projecting to receive, at most $106,000 from the trust this year. Most of this will go to pay off previous bonds with the rest being allocated for the new project. It must be noted that this new building project has been postponed for almost three years because we have not had the financial resources to cover a new bond.

This new project will provide 8 new classrooms for our science program. This program has been in serious need of better space for several years. During this time our dedicated and creative staff have been dealing with overcrowded classrooms, having to move their supplies around with them on carts and even air quality issues. Even so, we are proud of the fact that since CAT testing was implemented Coe-Brown students have scored in the top ten of schools statewide overall and in the top five in the science category. Even after waiting years to start, the project will be bare bones and the building will not be totally completed since we do not have the funds to do so at this time. It will be years before we will be able to undertake completing this building, or any other building project regardless of need.

Having access to state building aid will make it possible for Coe-Brown Northwood Academy to continue to provide the students from local towns with the facilities necessary to meet their educational needs. It is our belief that these local students, and their families, deserve access to the same aid that other students, in communities that can afford their own high school, receive.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 54

BILL TITLE: **establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.**

DATE: January 21, 2003

LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

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

Moved by Rep. Snyder

Seconded by Rep. Flint

Vote: 15/2 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

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

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Sharon M. Carson, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 54

BILL TITLE: **establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.**

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LOB ROOM: 207

Amendments:

Sponsor: Rep. OLS Document #:

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

Moved by Rep. Snyder

Seconded by Rep. Flint

Vote: 15/2 (Please attach record of roll call vote.)

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

Moved by Rep.

Seconded by Rep.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR VOTE:

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

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Peter E. Bragdon, Clerk

Carson

Sharon M. Carson

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK 2003 SESSION

EDUCATION

Bill #: HB 54 Title: Establishing committee to study the eligibility for School at Building Aid

PH Date: 1/21/03 Exec Session Date: 1/28/03

Motion: ITL Amendment #: ———

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
L'Heureux. Stephen R. Chairman	✓	
Alger. John R M. V Chairman	✓	
Dearborn. Bruce L	✓	
Flint. Gordon B	✓	
Carson. Sharon M	✓	
Colcord. J D	abstain	
Balboni. Michael A	✓	
Leone. Richard C		✓
McHugh. Claire B	absent	
Naro. Debra A	✓	
Laurent. John J	✓	
Tufts. J Arthur	✓	
Carter. Mark S	✓	
Hagan. Barbara J	absent	
Ingbretson. Paul	✓	
Snyder. Clair A	✓	
Jean. Claudette R	✓	
Clarke. Claire D	✓	
Rush. Deanna P		✓
Scovner. Nancy M	✓	
Dunn. James T	✓	
	15 yea 2 nay 1 abstention	
TOTAL VOTE:	15	2

Printed: 1/6/2003

Committee Report

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Education**

BILL NUMBER: **HB 54**

TITLE: establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

DATE: January 21, 2003 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)

The committee felt this bill would take building aid funds from limited state funds to support building in private schools. This would limit funds to public schools in need of new buildings or renovations to existing buildings. If these funds were to be used for private schools we would be supporting schools over which the state has no control. These schools have endowment funds available, the ability to raise funds through building drives, and they can also include building drives in the tuition charge to the communities.

Vote 15/2.

Rep. Clair A. Snyder
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

Education

HB 54, establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities. **INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE** Rep. Clair A. Snyder for Education: The committee felt this bill would take building aid funds from limited state funds to support building in private schools. This would limit funds to private schools badly in need of new buildings and renovations to existing buildings. If these funds were to be used for private schools we would be supporting schools over which the state has no control. These schools have endowment funds available, the ability to raise funds through building drives, and they can also include building drives in the tuition charge to the communities. **Vote 15/2.**

COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE: **Education**

BILL NUMBER: **HB 54**

TITLE: establishing a committee to study the eligibility for school building aid of certain public academies which serve as the local school for their communities.

DATE: 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 15/2
1 Abstention

Rep. Alice A. Snyder
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
cc: Committee Bill file

USE ANOTHER REPORT FOR MINORITY REPORT

THE COMMITTEE FELT
→ This bill ~~would~~ would take building aid funds from limited state funds to support buildings in private schools. ~~[illegible]~~ This would limit funds to public schools badly in need of new buildings and renovations to existing buildings. If these funds were to be used for private schools

APPROVED

we would be supporting schools over which the state has no control.

These schools have endowment funds available, the ability to raise funds through building drives, and they can also include BUILDING ~~the~~ costs in the tuition charged TO the communities.