REGULAR CALENDAR

March 7, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Education to which was referred HB 451, relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.

WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Education**
Bill Number:	**HB 451**
Title:	**relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.**
Date:	**March 7, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**Regular Calendar**
Recommendation:	**WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

Statement in support of Ought to Pass: This is a simple bill. It ensures that there will be no discrimination under New Hampshire's non-discrimination laws in admissions by any public, private, online, or vendor school that receives taxpayer resourced money. At the present time, non-public institutions and programs are only required to abide by the federal non-discrimination laws. No child or parents should experience rejection for admission to taxpayer resource funded and state supported educational programs or activities on the basis of our New Hampshire non-discrimination law that includes protections for gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religious creed, marital status, national origin, color, economic status, physical or mental disability, or sex. This bill does not apply to any parent whose child is receiving education through an approved homeschool program, nor does it restrict sex discrimination in educational institutions or activities that are designed for single sex groups.

Amendment:

Rep. Linda Tanner

Statement in support of Inexpedient to Legislate: This bill expands the State Board of Education statutory requirement to ensure that there is no unlawful discrimination in any public school. It expands the requirement to include entities that receive state or federal funding; including private schools, online programs, and "education vendors" although provides no definition as to who these vendors are. It also greatly expands the list of classes of people to be protected. It is unclear why the State Board would investigate private schools receiving just federal funding. The entities that are the targets receiving state funds are intended to be recipients of funds from the Education Freedom Accounts program. The funds they receive are actually private funds from account parents as stated by multiple courts. One of the often-cited areas of discrimination are private schools that might not accept certain students with disabilities for whom they are not able to provide services. These schools are private and do not have the ability to raise taxes, but do the best they can to provide needed services. This basic legislation has been defeated on prior occasions since the start of the Education Freedom Account Program.

Amendment:

Rep. Glenn Cordelli

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Education

HB 451, relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination. **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

Statement in support of Ought to Pass: This is a simple bill. It ensures that there will be no discrimination under New Hampshire's non-discrimination laws in admissions by any public, private, online, or vendor school that receives taxpayer resourced money. At the present time, non-public institutions and programs are only required to abide by the federal non-discrimination laws. No child or parents should experience rejection for admission to taxpayer resource funded and state supported educational programs or activities on the basis of our New Hampshire non-discrimination law that includes protections for gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religious creed, marital status, national origin, color, economic status, physical or mental disability, or sex. This bill does not apply to any parent whose child is receiving education through an approved homeschool program, nor does it restrict sex discrimination in educational institutions or activities that are designed for single sex groups.

Rep. Linda Tanner

Statement in support of Inexpedient to Legislate: This bill expands the State Board of Education statutory requirement to ensure that there is no unlawful discrimination in any public school. It expands the requirement to include entities that receive state or federal funding; including private schools, online programs, and "education vendors" although provides no definition as to who these vendors are. It also greatly expands the list of classes of people to be protected. It is unclear why the State Board would investigate private schools receiving just federal funding. The entities that are the targets receiving state funds are intended to be recipients of funds from the Education Freedom Accounts program. The funds they receive are actually private funds from account parents as stated by multiple courts. One of the often-cited areas of discrimination are private schools that might not accept certain students with disabilities for whom they are not able to provide services. These schools are private and do not have the ability to raise taxes, but do the best they can to provide needed services. This basic legislation has been defeated on prior occasions since the start of the Education Freedom Account Program.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 451

BILL TITLE: relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.

DATE: March 7, 2023

LOB ROOM: 205-207

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Cordelli Seconded by Rep. Belcher Vote: 10-10

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS

Moved by Rep. Tanner Seconded by Rep. Myler Vote: 10-10

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Margaret Drye, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # HB 451

BILL TITLE: ... relative to prohibition on discrimination

DATE: 3/7/23

LOB ROOM: 205-207

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☒ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Cordelli Seconded by Rep. Belcher Vote: 10-10

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☒ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. Tanner Seconded by Rep. Myler Vote: 10-10

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: ____ **YES** ____ **NO**

Minority Report? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep: _____ Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: Rep. Margaret M Dye

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/6/2023 12:35:36 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Education

Bill #: HB 451 **Motion:** ITL **AM #:** _____ **Exec Session Date:** 3/7/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Ladd, Rick M. Chairman	10		
Cordelli, Glenn Vice Chairman	1		
Lekas, Alicia D.	2		
Ford, Oliver J. Clerk	3		
Belcher, Mike S.	4		
Drye, Margaret M.	5		
McDonnell, Valerie E.	6		
Noble, Kristin	7		
Peternel, Katy	8		
~~Quaratiello, Arlene~~ Tenczar	9		
Myler, Mel		1	
Cornell, Patricia		2	
Tanner, Linda L.		3	
Luneau, David J.		4	
Ellison, Arthur S.		5	
Woodcock, Stephen L.		6	
~~Hall, Muriel C.~~ Preece		7	
Balboni, Peggy		8	
S Cascadden, Corinne E.		9	
Damon, Hope		10	
TOTAL VOTE:			

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/6/2023 12:35:36 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Education

Bill #: HB451 **Motion:** OTP **AM #:** _____ **Exec Session Date:** 3/7/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Ladd, Rick M. Chairman		10	
Cordelli, Glenn Vice Chairman		1	
Lekas, Alicia D.		2	
Ford, Oliver J. Clerk		3	
Belcher, Mike S.		4	
Drye, Margaret M.		5	
McDonnell, Valerie E.		6	
Noble, Kristin		7	
Peternel, Katy		8	
~~Quaratiello, Arlene~~ Tenczar		9	
Myler, Mel	1		
Cornell, Patricia	2		
Tanner, Linda L.	3		
Luneau, David J.	4		
Ellison, Arthur S.	5		
Woodcock, Stephen L.	6		
~~Hall, Muriel C.~~ Preece	7		
Balboni, Peggy	8		
S Cascadden, Corinne E.	9		
Damon, Hope	10		
TOTAL VOTE:			

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 451

BILL TITLE: **relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.**

DATE: **February 24, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **205-207** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **4:10 pm**

Time Adjourned: **4:35 pm**

Committee Members: Reps. Ladd, Cordelli, A. Lekas, O. Ford, Drye, McDonnell, Noble, Peternel, Myler, Luneau, Woodcock, Hall, Balboni, Cascadden and Damon

Bill Sponsors:

Rep. Tanner	**Rep. D. Paige**	**Rep. Roesener**
Rep. Cornell	**Rep. M. Smith**	**Rep. Damon**
Rep. Myler	**Rep. Schultz**	

TESTIMONY

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

***Rep. Woodcock for Rep. Tanner - Prime Sponsor**
- Discrimination in schools leads to a poor academic environment.
- Students need a safe environment. This bill puts anti-discrimination in the education statutes.

***Debrah Howes - AFT-NH**
- Supports
- Public money needs public accountability. Private schools and programs could discriminate against students.

David Trumble
- Supports
- State funding should not be going to anywhere that discriminates.

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Margaret Drye, Clerk

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: HB451 Date: 2/24/23

Committee: EDUCATION

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

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
David Trumble	Weare NH	529 2170	self	X	

House Remote Testify

Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB451 on 2023-02-24

Support: 210 Oppose: 13 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Dunham, Bonnie	Merrimack, NH Bsdunham12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 2:20 AM
Donovan, Terri	Laconia, NH terridd@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 5:49 PM
Hansberry, Bonita	Nashua, NH bhansberry@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:15 PM
Duffy, Carol	Nashua, NH csdspedsp@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:17 PM
Lowen, Rosalind	Lincoln, NH Roz.lowen@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:28 PM
Hamilton, Arthur	Salem, NH leprechaunartie@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:29 PM
Lincoln, Mary	Manchester, NH mary.lincoln52@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:46 PM
Jillson, Tracey	Winches, NH tmjillson@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 7:51 PM
Zaenglein, Barbara	Amherst, NH bzaenglein@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 8:14 PM
Mulvey, Michael	Nashua, NH michaelpmulvey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 8:28 PM
Bracy, Sue	Dunbarton, NH marysuebracy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 8:34 PM
Burnap, Linda	Wolfeboro, NH 54able@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 9:10 PM
Zaenglein, Eric	Amherst, NH henley11@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 9:37 PM

Johnson, Anita	Amherst, NH anitab.johnson@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 9:40 PM
White, Tim	EFFINGHAM, NH tl.white@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 10:02 PM
Merrick, Debra	Atkinson, NH fjmerrick@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 10:10 PM
Lanchester, Cynthia	Franconia, NH cjlanchester@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/17/2023 10:35 PM
Lewis, Neil	Nashua, NH nj2nh@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 2:15 AM
Davis, Tod	Nashua, NH todc.18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 4:30 AM
carr, d	hanover, NH draak1702@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 5:16 AM
Mitchell, Karen	Mont Vernon, NH kmitchell5@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 6:00 AM
Field, Bryan	PETERBOROUGH, NH brysciguy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 6:06 AM
Fogarty, Sean	Exeter, NH seanf186@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 6:32 AM
Davis, Linda	Rochester, NH lrdavis1355@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/18/2023 6:43 AM
Raby, Jacques	Pelham, NH jmraby@proton.me	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 7:58 AM
Tougher, Robert	Wolfeboro, NH poppatuff@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 8:00 AM
Pyles, David	Nelson, NH dnpyles@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 8:07 AM
McLay, Virginia	Antrim, NH petrapoo@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 8:49 AM
Roos-Unger, Ellen	Amherst, NH eroosunger@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 9:05 AM
Sinclair, Jill	Rochester, NH rsinky@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 9:47 AM
Sinclair, Bob	Rochester, NH rsinky@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 9:48 AM

Arabas, Jill	Hollis, NH jaarabas@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 10:02 AM
Till, Mary	Concord, NH maryforderry@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 10:43 AM
Marcy, Henry	Sutton, NH homarcy5@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 11:06 AM
KEEGAN, THOMAS	BRISTOL, NH tmkeegan1115@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 11:08 AM
Michaud, Janice	Tuftonboro, NH janicemichaud2000@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 11:13 AM
Cilley, Jackie	Barrington, NH jcilley@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 11:20 AM
Field, Linda	Peterborough, NH lindafield9@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 1:02 PM
Phillips, Betsey	Bethlehem, NH bphill36@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 2:14 PM
Bryce, Barbara	Gilsum, NH bbryce17@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 3:24 PM
Holstein, Susanne	Bedford, NH srholstein@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 4:14 PM
Sarles, Christie	Mirror Lake, NH cvsarles@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 4:15 PM
Dewey, Karen	NEWPORT, NH pkdewey@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 5:46 PM
Bent, Sandra	Mont Vernon, NH Sjb961@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 8:41 PM
Laurenitis, Loretta	Peterborough, NH lbonlaur@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/18/2023 10:45 PM
Ford, Sue	Easton, NH sueford06@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 8:30 AM
Steel, Sandy	PLAINFIELD, NH selizabethsteel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:07 AM
Allen, Stacey	Manchester, NH Stacallen06@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:31 AM
Giuffrida, Diana	Hudson, NH diana@paladinsoft.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:33 AM

Bouchard, Donald	MANCHESTER, NH donaldjbouchard@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 11:00 AM
Warwick, Brian	Bethlehem, NH brianwarwick@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 11:24 AM
Warwick, Ashley	Bethlehem, NH brianwarwick@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 11:24 AM
Hill, Bonnie	South Sutton, NH hillbonnie@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 12:04 PM
Arguin-Newton, Kerry	Merrimack, NH kerry.newton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 12:44 PM
KIMBALL, JEAN	AUBURN, NH JCKNH@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/19/2023 1:10 PM
Hogan, Sarah	Amherst, NH souhogan@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 1:44 PM
Learner, Marilyn	Hollis, NH mzlearner@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 4:33 PM
Smith, Julie	Nashua, NH cantdog@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/19/2023 5:05 PM
Daniels, Megan	Raymond, NH Mrouleau22@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 5:05 PM
Guven, Taci	Windham, NH taci.guven@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/19/2023 6:17 PM
Mercer, Jennifer	Loudon, NH jenannmercer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/19/2023 7:11 PM
Chamberlin, Marion	Deering, NH doo@toast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 8:24 PM
Keeler, Margaret	New London, NH peg5keeler@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 8:35 PM
Coon, Kate	Peterborough, NH kate2coon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:02 PM
Willing, Maura	Concord, NH Maura.Willing@Comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:09 PM
Jorgensen, Patricia	NORTHFIELD, NH yellaboat@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/19/2023 10:17 PM
Damon, Claudia	Concord, NH cordsdamon@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/19/2023 10:30 PM

Robbins, Annie	Wakefield, NH cpr55@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 6:56 AM
Gage, Elizabeth	Cornish, NH lizgagenh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:25 AM
Straiton, Marie	Pembroke, NH m.straiton@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:30 AM
Satterfield, Peter	Pembroke, NH psatterfield@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:35 AM
Arsenault, Joan	Wolfeboro, NH joan.arsenault1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 8:06 AM
Osman, Fredda	Gilford, NH wizfc@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 8:18 AM
Reed, Barbara	North Swanzey, NH BDReed74@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 8:38 AM
Torpey, Jeanne	Concord, NH jtorp51@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:15 AM
Casino, Joanne	Concord, NH joannecasino@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:15 AM
hatch, sally	concord, NH sallyhatch@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:23 AM
Gale, Margaret	Bethlehem, NH mgale6781@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:33 AM
Severance, Janice	Concord, NH janicenute@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:33 AM
Lenz, James	Meriden, NH jelenz@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:45 AM
Liscord, Barbara McKusick	Mont Vernon, NH barbmcklis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:48 AM
Raymond, Heather	Nashua, NH shewan01@hotmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:54 AM
Campbell, Karolyn	Epsom, NH kkcampbell43@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:05 AM
Istel, Claudia	Acworth, NH cistel79@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:05 AM
Pajak, Louise	Sandown, NH lbpajakcello@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:17 AM

Walker, Deborah Klein	Meredith, NH deb.publichealth@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:38 AM
Jones, Andrew	Pembroke, NH arj11718@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:43 AM
Devore, Gary	Pembroke, NH torin_asheron@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:50 AM
Lewis, Elizabeth	Nashua, NH ecop.lewis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 10:55 AM
Marcoux, Adam	Nashua, NH president@nashuatu.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 11:10 AM
Englund, Alfrieda	Stoddard, NH ditaenglund43@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 11:21 AM
Austin, Suzanne	Brentwood, NH suzanne321@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 12:25 PM
Monsein, Marilyn	Sugar Hill, NH msquared3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 12:43 PM
Redmond-Scura, Maureen	Concord, NH mscura@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 1:08 PM
Wessels, Susan	RINDGE, NH slwessels2010@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 1:36 PM
thompson, julia	durham, NH maple371@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 1:55 PM
Tonkin, Kris	Durham, NH tonkin5@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 1:57 PM
Keegan, John	BOscawen, NH peoresnada@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:00 PM
Ciatto, Susan	Mont Vernon, NH susan.ciatto@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:03 PM
Vecchiotti, Dorothea	Peterborough, NH div@ocs-oe.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:14 PM
MacGregor, Leslie	Grantham, NH lsmacgregor@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:22 PM
Hatcher, Phil	Dover, NH phil.hatcher@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:39 PM
Liebowitz, Susan	Plainfield, NH supawali@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 2:51 PM

Lurie, Elizabeth	Plainfield, NH ehlurie@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:15 PM
Ptak, Judy	Plainfield, NH japtak@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:23 PM
Feller-Kopman, Michelle	Plainfield, NH michelle@shore.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:26 PM
Merlone, Lynn	Rindge, NH prulone@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:27 PM
Hershey, Jane	Rindge, NH janelhershey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:27 PM
Moore, Susan	Franconia, NH susan.moore.franconia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:42 PM
Hackmann, Kent	Andover, NH hackmann@uidaho.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:46 PM
St John, JoAnne	Nashua, NH joannestj@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 3:47 PM
Podlipny, Ann	chester, NH apodlipny57@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 4:43 PM
MESERVE, BARBARA	JACKSON, NH ALLSNOWDAYS@YAHOO.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 6:22 PM
Taylor, Gale	Concord, NH galeforcefacilitators@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 6:42 PM
Shanks, Penelope	Keene, NH Penelope.shanks@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 6:50 PM
Benham, Beth	Nottingham, NH deeppeace296@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 6:57 PM
Fyfe, Stuart	Nottingham, NH stufyfe@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:46 PM
Fyfe, Charlotte	Nottingham, NH charlottefyfe@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:54 PM
Laker-Phelps, Gail	Chichester, NH lpsart@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 7:56 PM
Hilbert, Laura	Nottingham, NH l.m.hilbert@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 8:59 PM
Ramos-Glew, Victoria	Meriden, NH vramosglew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:16 PM

Perencevich, Ruth	Concord, NH rperence@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/20/2023 9:29 PM
Bishop, Nancy	Plaistow, NH nanbis71@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 2:10 AM
Ellermann, Maureen	Concord, NH ellermannf@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 6:50 AM
DeMark, Richard	Meredith, NH demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 7:09 AM
DeMark, Harriet	Meredith, NH demarknh114@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 7:09 AM
Nardino, Marie	Andover, NH mdnardino@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 7:23 AM
Bergevin, Leslie	Loudon, NH Leslie.bergevin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 7:36 AM
Lenz, Elaine	Meriden, NH eglenz@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 8:17 AM
Benevides, Eric	Gilford, NH ericbenevides@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 8:28 AM
Knieriem, Carol	Concord, NH cjknier@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 8:34 AM
Black, Matthew	Mont Vernon, NH immsb1138@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 9:56 AM
Brown, Nancy	Hopkinton, NH wcbnpb@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 10:11 AM
Hergenhahn, Kim	Hudson, NH khergenhahn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 10:17 AM
Weiner, Stephanie	Lancaster, NH sjweiner03@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 10:43 AM
Bundy, Linda	Antrim, NH n_bundy@mcttelecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/21/2023 10:46 AM
Coffey, Cindy	Nottingham, NH cindycoffey319@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 11:03 AM
Zajano, Emily	Exeter, NH emzajano@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 11:16 AM
Davidson, Kristen	Nashua, NH kddavids@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 11:32 AM

Johnson, Dawn	Laconia, NH staterep@dawnjohnson4nh.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/21/2023 11:45 AM
Lundquist, Wendy	Windham, NH wendylundquist@prodigy.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/21/2023 12:07 PM
Reynolds, Cathryn	Hudson, NH Clreynolds1@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 12:20 PM
Corell, Elizabeth	Concord, NH Elizabeth.j.corell@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 12:46 PM
Drysdale, Robert	Hanover, NH scotdrysdale47@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 1:01 PM
Blanchard, Sandra	Loudon, NH sandyblanchard3@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 1:21 PM
Mirando, Anthony	Mirror Lake, NH amirandodc@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/21/2023 1:23 PM
Cote, Lois	Manchester, NH, NH lcote06@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 1:45 PM
Fahey, Patricia	Deering, NH tessadal@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 2:02 PM
Rettew, Ann	Concord, NH abrettew@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 2:11 PM
Schwotzer, Pamela	Kensington, NH pschwotzer@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 2:13 PM
Alexander, Christine	Cornish, NH calex8@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 2:58 PM
Helfman, Claire	Waterville Valley, NH clairehelfman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 3:17 PM
RHOADES, CHARLES	Dover, NH chuckrhoades@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 4:24 PM
Smith, Sara	Pembroke, NH sara.rose.ssmith@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 5:20 PM
Baucom, Pam	Walpole, NH ptubridybaucom@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 5:23 PM
Liberman, Sheryl	Merrimack, NH saml54@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 5:33 PM
Scura, Christa	Hopkinton, NH john08son@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 5:34 PM

Clifford, Virginia	Candia, NH vstmartin@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 6:27 PM
Woods, Beverly	Wolfeboro, NH citizen@beverlywoods.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 6:51 PM
Furey, Nathaniel	Nottingham, NH n.b.furey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 8:31 PM
Staples, Monica	Nashua, NH monica.staples@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/21/2023 11:06 PM
Davis, Johnna	Gilford, NH jdavis@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 5:11 AM
Boyer, Marjorie	Merrimack, NH marjorie.boyer847@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 7:16 AM
Westlake, Jane	Center Barnstead, NH janewestlake57@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 8:11 AM
Dabrieo, Timothy	Nottingham, NH timdabrieo@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 8:13 AM
Marston, Johanna	Manchester, NH jmarston83@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 10:53 AM
Campbell, Leonard	Meredith, NH lsoup03@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 12:07 PM
Lindpaintner, Lyn	Concord, NH lynlin@bluewin.ch	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 12:17 PM
Hawkins, Sam	Concord, NH shawkins@naminh.org	A Lobbyist	NAMI NH	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 12:50 PM
Sevigny, Emma	Concord, NH esevigny@new-futures.org	A Lobbyist	New Futures	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 2:16 PM
Clark, Martha	Canterbury, NH mctraveler1@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 2:33 PM
Dube, Priscilla	Concord, NH Priscilla2NH@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 2:33 PM
McMahon, Patricia	Merrimack, NH bailey53@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 2:34 PM
Oxenham, Lee	PLainfield, NH leeoxenham@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 2:39 PM
Bushueff, Catherine	Sunapee, NH agawamdesigns@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 8:58 PM

Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/22/2023 10:52 PM
Reardon, Donna	Concord, NH bugs42953@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/22/2023 11:20 PM
Verschueren, James	Dover, NH jd.verschueren@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 9:05 AM
Dunn, Robert	Manchester, NH rdunn@rcbm.org	A Lobbyist	Roman Catholic Bishop of Manchester	Oppose	No	No	2/23/2023 9:12 AM
Weber, Jill	Mont Vernon, NH jill@frajilfarms.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 10:18 AM
Fuentes, Sebastian	Thornton, NH sebastian@radnh.org	A Lobbyist	Rights & Democracy NH	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 10:45 AM
Malmberg, Jane	Walpole, NH Jamalmberg033@gmail.con	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 11:47 AM
Tulk, Joan	Nottingham, NH joantulk@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 12:59 PM
Fudge, Kim Marie	NORTH CONWAY, NH kimfudge20@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 3:14 PM
Richards, Martha	HOLDERNESS, NH maplerichards@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 3:20 PM
Penerian, Sara	New Boston, NH sarapenerian@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 4:06 PM
freeman, lynn	meriden, NH lef285@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 5:16 PM
Evans, Krysten	Pelham, NH Krysten@ABLENH.org	A Member of the Public	ABLE NH	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 5:52 PM
Platt, Elizabeth Anne	Concord, NH lizanneplatt09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/23/2023 7:50 PM
Robertson-Souter, Catherine	Windham, NH catsout@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 7:51 PM
Cevasco, Karin	Milford, NH Karin.Cevasco@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 7:54 PM
Steel, Laura	Plainfield, NH lfsteel@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 8:00 PM
Nelson, Deborah	Hanover, NH dbaconnelson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 8:49 PM

jakubowski, dennis	Loudon, NH dendeb146@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 8:52 PM
Jakubowski, Deborah	Loudon, NH dendeb146@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 8:53 PM
Spencer, Louise	Concord, NH lpskentstreet@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 9:03 PM
Bowles, Margaret	Lyme, NH mcb2885@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 9:20 PM
Koch, Helmut	Concord, NH helmut.koch.2001@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/23/2023 10:05 PM
Doherty, David	Pembroke, NH, NH ddoherty0845@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 6:45 AM
Mack, Melissa	Milford, NH mackmelissa23@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 7:05 AM
FRIEDRICH, ED	Loudon, NH erfriedrich@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 7:20 AM
Taylor, Susan	Plainfield, NH sueetaylor158@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 7:48 AM
Evans, Anne	Hanover, NH anne.m.evans4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 7:54 AM
Taylor, David	Plainfield, NH dstaylor342@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 7:59 AM
Brennan, Nancy	Weare, NH burningnan14@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 8:00 AM
Brennan, Arthur	Weare, NH arete201314@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 8:05 AM
Brennan, Jane	Weare, NH janelb@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 8:09 AM
Ufford, Letitia	Hanover, NH letitia.ufford@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 8:44 AM
Chase, Karen	Hanover, NH kpchase@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 9:07 AM
morgan, meredith	hanover, NH meredithm@kahres.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 9:45 AM
Racusin, Sharon	Hanover, NH sdracusin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 9:58 AM

Hughes, Megan	Walpole, NH mhughes1wbc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 10:25 AM
Garland, Leane	Hanover, NH leanepage@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 10:53 AM
Townsend, Charles	Canaan, NH chucktownsend@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 11:41 AM
Williams, Janet	Lyme, NH jlwlyme@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 11:59 AM
Anastasia, Patricia	Londonderry, NH patti.anastasia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 12:25 PM
Weingeist, Carol	Hanover, NH carol.weingeist@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 1:25 PM
Wilke, Mary	CONCORD, NH wilke.mary@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 3:41 PM
Billingham, Carla	Salem, NH billingham2@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 4:58 PM
Bass, Patricia	Concord, NH pattybass@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 8:36 PM
Holcombe, Susan	Hanover, NH shholcombe@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 9:06 PM
boudman, roberta	wolfeboro, NH boudwoman2@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 11:37 PM
Grearson, Arlynne Faye	Lebanon, NH faye.grearson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/24/2023 11:50 PM

I Support HB451

Hon Representatives,

I Support HB451.

Public Education in NH is a necessary end to the growth and social well-being of the State of NH.

No person should be denied that opportunity, and this helps to define and recognize the social classes defined by science; and ensuring that all students will receive a public education.

NH is promoting Public Education!!

This bill follows the NH Constitutional vision that "all government of right originates from the people, is founded in consent, and instituted for the general good."

Please recommend HB451.

Respectfully,

Len

Leonard Campbell
Meredith, NH
603-455-1105

NAMI New Hampshire
National Alliance on Mental Illness

February 24th, 2023

Honorable Chairman Rick Ladd
House Education Committee
Legislative Office Building 205-207
N State St., Concord, NH 03301

RE: NAMI NH Support for HB 451

Dear Chairman Ladd and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Sam Hawkins, and I am the Public Policy Assistant at NAMI NH, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI NH is a non-profit, grassroots organization whose mission is to improve the lives of all people impacted by mental illness and suicide through support, education and advocacy. On behalf of NAMI NH, I am writing in support of HB 451, relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.

Alongside the home, schools are one of the most important environments for a child, directly impacting their current and future wellbeing and success. As such, it is crucial we ensure that these spaces are safe, supportive, and accessible for every individual, regardless of their identity and characteristics. HB 451, which expands protections against discrimination in school admissions and educational programs, is an important measure in doing so.

In the US, 1 in 6 youth aged 6-17 experience a mental health disorder each year, and in the Granite State, 15,000 individuals aged 12-17 live with depression. The impact of these disorders on educational outcomes is serious. High school students with depression are twice as likely to drop out as their peers. For LGBTQ+ youth, the situation is especially dire. The Trevor Project reported that, in 2022, 72% of LGBTQ+ youth in New Hampshire experienced symptoms of anxiety, 55% experienced symptoms of depression, and 39% seriously considered suicide.

Exposing these kids to discrimination and denying them access to a complete, fulfilling educational community and experience can only serve to worsen these conditions and harm

their current and future wellbeing. Beyond establishing protections, this bill would also go a long way in reducing the stigma surrounding disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity, telling both these individuals and their communities that they are valued, accepted, and protected here in New Hampshire.

For these reasons, NAMI NH urges the committee to vote Ought to Pass for HB 451.

Sincerely,



Samuel C. Hawkins

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

February 24, 2023

The Honorable Rick Ladd, Chair
And Members, House Education Committee
Legislative Office Building
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Re: HB 451 (State Board of Education Prohibition on Discrimination)

Dear Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

As Director of the Office of Public Policy of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, and on behalf of Bishop Peter Libasci, I write to ask you to recommend **HB 451 as inexpedient to legislate.**

As a threshold matter, there are some significant ambiguities evident on the face of the bill. Lines 3 and 4 require DOE to ensure no unlawful discrimination "in admissions." At the end of line 7, however, this same requirement is expanded to apply with respect to the broader category of "educational programs." Likewise, lines 8-10 prohibit denial of "the benefits of educational programs or activities" to "any person", which (because subparagraph (a) is framed with respect to "persons" and subparagraph (b) uses the word "students") appears designed to cover a broader universe than just students. In any event, the bill is unclear.

Turning to the substance of the bill, the text of HB 451 is susceptible of a reading that would prohibit nonpublic schools that accept public funds from actions with respect to one of the protected categories. As I have previously stated to the Committee with respect to other bills, we disagree with the underlying premise of HB 451 insofar as it is intended to treat scholarships under RSA 77-G or EFAs under RSA 194-F as public funds that occasion treatment of nonpublic schools in ways that are different from how they have been treated under laws of long-standing in New Hampshire.

That said, if HB 451 is intended to reinforce that nonpublic schools will comply with *applicable* nondiscrimination laws, HB 451 is unnecessary because these laws obviously apply today. If HB 451 is intended to prohibit nonpublic schools from engaging in actions that are currently lawful under RSA 354-A (the state anti-discrimination law), then HB 451 is problematic because it goes beyond the provisions of RSA 354-A, and moreover it does so without any reference to RSA 354-A aside from the single provision that would allow the NH Human Rights Commission to hear claims for violations of RSA 186:11, XXXIII(a). (If enacted, this would be the first and only time that RSA 354-A is mentioned in RSA 186.)

To illustrate one problem with taking such an approach, religion is a protected category under HB 451 and likewise under RSA 354-A. RSA 354-A, though, contains express exemptions for religious organizations, and thus for instance a religious employer lawfully may give hiring preferences to applicants who share that employer's religious faith. While that hiring preference is permitted under RSA 354-A because of the exemptions, it would not appear to be permitted under HB 451 because HB 451 proscribes discrimination on the basis of religion *without including the exemption found in RSA 354-A.*

RSA 354-A is the product of decades of careful policy development and it is simply inadvisable to change RSA 354-A obliquely by means of legislation that involves statutes other than RSA 354-A.

It is also worth noting that HB 451 might run afoul of constitutional requirements as well. For instance, nonpublic religious schools cannot constitutionally be prohibited from making decisions that are protected under the First Amendment. *See, e.g., Hosanna-Tabor Evangelical Lutheran Church and School v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*, 565 U.S. 171 (2012).

Accordingly, we respectfully ask that you recommend HB 451 **as inexpedient to legislate**.

Thank you as always for your kind consideration of our views.

Very truly yours,

Robert E. Dunn, Jr., Esq.
Director, Office of Public Policy

ABLENH
DISABILITY JUSTICE ADVOCATES

February 24, 2023

Chairman Ladd
House Education Committee
Re: Support HB 451

Dear Chairman and Committee Members,

As a representative of ABLE NH, a disability justice organization, I am here to testify in support of NH House Bill 451. This bill seeks to prohibit discrimination by the State Board of Education on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, or disability.

According to research by the National Disability Rights Network, people with disabilities face discrimination in many areas of life, including education. In fact, students with disabilities are more likely to be suspended, expelled, or disciplined in other ways than their peers without disabilities. This is particularly true for students of color with disabilities, who are disproportionately disciplined in schools.

In addition, a report by the Government Accountability Office found that students with disabilities are more likely to experience bullying and harassment in schools, which can have serious negative effects on their mental health and academic achievement.

Furthermore, a study published in the Journal of Disability Policy Studies found that students with disabilities are less likely to graduate from high school and attend college than their peers without disabilities. This is particularly true for students from low-income families, who may not have access to the same resources and support as their peers.

By prohibiting discrimination by the State Board of Education, NH House Bill 451 would help to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to education and are not subjected to discriminatory practices. This would not only benefit students with disabilities, but also improve the educational outcomes and experiences of all students.

2 ½ Beacon Street, Concord, NH 03301
www.ablenh.org (765)4ABLENH info@ablenh.org
a 501(c)(3) Organization EIN 30-0508754

In conclusion, I urge the members of the Committee to support House Bill 451 and help ensure that all students, including those with disabilities, have access to a fair and equal education. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Krysten Evans
Director of Policy and Advocacy

Sources:

National Disability Rights Network. (2016). School-to-Prison Pipeline. Retrieved from https://www.ndrn.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/NDRN-School-to-Prison-Pipeline-Report.pdf

Government Accountability Office. (2012). Students with Disabilities: More Information and Guidance Could Improve Opportunities in Postsecondary Education. Retrieved from https://www.gao.gov/assets/600/590258.pdf

Losen, D. J., & Skiba, R. J. (2010). Suspended Education: Urban Middle Schools in Crisis. The Civil Rights Project at Harvard University. Retrieved from https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0k8968nk

Newman, L., Wagner, M., Cameto, R., Knokey, A.-M., & Shaver, D. (2010). Comparisons Across Time of the Outcomes of Youth With Disabilities up to 4 Years After High School. Journal of Disability Policy Studies, 21(1), 14-25.

Rosalind Lowen

Children should be protected from discrimination. Schools receiving public money are not allowed to discriminate against children of color or for their religion or culture.

Cynthia Lanchester

If tax money supports any school they cannot discriminate

Linda Davis

I am a public school teacher. If a parent feels they need to remove their student from the school in the best interest of the student, then they should have the right to pick the school of their choice. A school that meets the needs of their child. This bill is directly pointing to schools run by religious groups and it is unfair. When my children were young I sent them to a school run by a Protestant group because I knew my oldest would be a class clown in a room of 20 children and not learn. He went to school with 10 children in the 1st grade. He went to public school in 5th grade. My daughter went to the same school - because her 7th grade class was too small (3) I moved her to a local Catholic school. It was bigger but not huge like the city middle school. She went to public high school. Both are in their 30's. They have great jobs, they vote and are law abiding citizens. President Bush spoke of 1000 lights. To run our country we need these institutions that are privately sourced to meet the needs of our communities. By the way we did this on a teacher's salary and my spouse had an equivalent salary.
I also have a problem with the mental capacity of this bill. If a private school does not have the equipment to work with a mentally challenged student, they should not be required to admit that student and then build or acquire the equipment. That could run into thousands of dollars.
Please vote against this bill

Jackie Cilley

Our tax dollars should be used to support our local public schools. In no instance, should these monies be used to support "educational" facilities or agencies that, in the course of doing business, discriminate against individuals or groups of students. Our local neighborhood schools are tasked with accepting EVERY child and our tax dollars should be used solely for entities that fulfill that same mission.

Maureen Redmond-Scura

All people should be treated equally.

Judy Ptak

I do not want my tax dollars going to programs that discriminate. Please support this bill.

Gail Laker-Phelps

As a long time New Hampshire educator, I ask that you SUPPORT HB451 relating to the prohibition of discrimination!

Leslie Bergevin

Public funds should go to public schools, and separation of church and state should be maintained.

Carol Knieriem

This is a bill about fairness. Private schools should not receive funds if they discriminate against certain children. Public schools cannot and they shouldn't be able to either.

If public funds are being used, then anti-discrimination laws must be followed.

Claire Helfman

If public schools arefunded with tax money, which is what a voucher is, you cannot discriminate against students.

Sara Smith

,,,,,,

Nathaniel Furey

This is simple; public funds should not be used in any discriminatory practice, including for education. The simple point is this, if you are funded with public tax money, which is what a voucher is, you can’t discriminate against students based on race, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability.

Marjorie Boyer

Voucher accountability is needed. If an institution is funded with public tax money, which is what a voucher is, then they cannot discriminate against students based on race, religion, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability. Don’t use my tax money to fund discrimination!

Timothy Dabrieo

If public funds are being used to fund private education (which I only support with limited exceptions) then those public funds should only be used at institutions that cannot discriminate!!! Seems very simple!

Priscilla Dube

I support HB 451 because entities that receive public funding should not be allowed to discriminate. Period. This includes EFAs.

Donna Reardon

James Verschueren

Seems to be a clear update to our non-discrimination laws. OTP.

Sebastian Fuentes

We live in a world where our LGBTQ+ community is under attack. Their sole existence is at risk. This legislation will protect not just this community but this language is including us all. Education is a basic human right. Rights & Democracy of NH wholeheartedly supports this legislation.

Susan Taylor

No academic institution should receive public money if they discriminate against groups based on race, religion, sexual orientation or gender.

Megan Hughes

Please support HB451. Taxpayer money should not be used to discriminate.

Mary Wilke

To the Members of the House Education Committee,

Please vote OTP on HB 451 (relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination).

If the State of NH is going to pay for an educational service, whether public or private, we ought to be able to expect that the service will be provided without discrimination. Certainly a taxpayer should not be forced to pay taxes that will go to a school or educational vendor that would exclude the taxpayer's own child - or anyone else - for discriminatory reasons.

Thank you,
Mary Wilke
Concord, NH

Carla Billingham

I was opposed to using public funds for private, religious and home school since it was proposed. Until I can stop this injustice, I will support bills that hold those schools who receive public funds to the same standards and regulations as public schools.

In schools, discrimination can make it difficult for students to learn because they don't feel safe or accepted. Discrimination in schools contribute to high rates of absenteeism, dropping out, adverse health consequences, academic underachievement, and bullying. Every student has the right to an education free from discrimination. All students deserve equitable opportunities to learn.
Currently students are protected by the federal laws which cover race, color, national origin, sex and disability. In NH we have taken a stand as a state for recognizing and including gender identity, sexual orientation, and mental and physical disability in our nondiscrimination law. RSA 354-A., NH nondiscrimination statue, covers employment, housing, and places of public accommodation.
This bill, HB 451 is simple..it places the NH nondiscrimination protections in addition to the Federal anti-discrimination laws into the education statutes under 193:3. A school, vendor, or educational service in our state that accepts public funds will fall under these nondiscrimination laws. Where taxpayer resourced, public funding goes, public accountability must follow.
All kinds of discrimination are wrong and can be harmful to those involved. Discrimination has had a long history in our schools. Fighting discrimination takes courage and commitment but when we stand up to injustices and seek equity, all students stand to benefit.
Please join me in voting OTP on HB451

Linda Turner

AFT-NH Testimony on HB 451

From Debrah Howes, President AFT-NH

Thank you, Chair Ladd and Members of the House Education Committee, for reading my testimony.

My name is Debrah Howes. I am the president of the American Federation of Teachers-NH. AFT-NH represents 4,000 teachers, paraeducators and school support staff, public employees, and higher education faculty across New Hampshire. My members work with approximately 29,000 of the 165,000 public school students in New Hampshire in one way or another as well as thousands of university students. We are residents and taxpayers in the Granite State. I am writing today in support of **HB 451**, *relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.*

This bill would update the necessary guardrails that protect students from unlawful discrimination in admissions and access to any publicly funded educational programs and activities. State law already prohibits such discrimination in public schools, of course. This bill specifically adds language prohibiting discrimination by *any entity* receiving state or federal funding—including private schools, online programs, or educational vendors that use voucher funds.

That's important, because in recent years, our state legislature has passed bills creating one of the nation's most expansive, costly, and unaccountable voucher programs. We need to ensure that these programs don't allow discrimination on the taxpayers' dime.

Our union opposed the voucher program for many great reasons: It is wildly expensive—and as we predicted, quickly racked up massive cost overruns. There is no independent oversight of the spending and no independent academic accountability. The voucher program serves a few thousand children—most were already home-schooled or in private schools—while draining millions every year from the Education Trust Fund needed to support the neighborhood public schools that the rest of New Hampshire's 165,000 students attend.

Nationwide, studies have shown that vouchers are a failed policy. Why is New Hampshire, with a public education system that consistently ranks about 5th in the country chasing a failed policy that will harm the vast majority of Granite State students and the public schools they rely on? We have seen years of studies in a whole variety of states that show that vouchers are a failed education strategy, often leading to declines in student achievement—one recent analysis

found that vouchers inflict a negative impact on student learning similar to or worse than Hurricane Katrina or the pandemic!

But among the many reasons why we question any tax funded voucher scheme, one of the most important is this: *Vouchers often use tax dollars to fund discrimination and segregation.*

Public schools are open to, and serve, all students. But private schools and programs can deny students admission, or discipline them, or expel them, for any number of reasons, including disability, sexual orientation, or religion. Tax support of that level of discrimination – what some might call exclusivity or fitting in with world-view – has never been a Granite State value. You can see that in our long standing prohibition in our state constitution forbidding the direct funding of sectarian schools with state dollars. There are efforts now to eliminate that language, which AFT-NH opposes.

There are examples across the country of how private, voucher-funded schools have discriminated, from the child with disabilities in Texas who was rejected by 13 different private schools, to the Florida school that received $1.6 million in voucher funding in just one year but told parents it would kick out gay or transgender students.

Especially troubling is how private school voucher programs perpetuate racial segregation. Data going back more than 10 years show that vouchers disproportionately serve white students, leaving students of color behind in more segregated schools. Sadly, segregation is baked into vouchers' history. Voucher programs in the South—Virginia., Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina—were first created to allow white students to fund segregation academies in the wake of *Brown v. Board of Education*.

I often come here and voice positions that some legislators don't agree with. But I hope we can *all* agree that New Hampshire should be one of the states that won't let a single public dollar go to discrimination or segregation in any form, including in private schools and programs that take New Hampshire voucher dollars.

I urge you to support HB 451.

Debrah Howes

Debrah Howes

President, AFT-NH

HB 451 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0415
04/05

HOUSE BILL ***451***

AN ACT relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.

SPONSORS: Rep. Tanner, Sull. 5; Rep. D. Paige, Carr. 1; Rep. Roesener, Merr. 22; Rep. Cornell, Hills. 22; Rep. M. Smith, Straf. 10; Rep. Damon, Sull. 8; Rep. Myler, Merr. 9; Rep. Schultz, Merr. 29

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill amends the provisions relating to sex discrimination in public and private education.

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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 451 - AS INTRODUCED

23-0415
04/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to the state board of education prohibition on discrimination.

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

1 State Board of Education; Duties; Discrimination. Amend RSA 186:11, XXXIII to read as follows:

XXXIII.***(a)*** Discrimination. Ensure that there shall be no unlawful discrimination in ***admissions by any entity receiving state or federal funding in*** any public school***, private school, school approved for a tuition program, online program, or educational vendor*** against any person on the basis of sex, ***gender identity, sexual orientation,*** race, ***religious*** creed, color, marital status, ***physical or mental disability,*** or national origin in educational programs, and that there shall be no denial to any person on the basis of sex, ***gender identity, sexual orientation,*** race, ***religious*** creed, color, marital status, ***physical or mental disability,*** national origin, or economic status of the benefits of educational programs or activities.

(b) This paragraph shall not apply to any parent whose child is receiving primary or secondary education through an approved home education program pursuant to RSA 193-A. The prohibition on sex discrimination in this paragraph shall not apply to an educational institution that admits students of a single sex, and not to classes, programs, or activities in an educational institution that are offered to students of a single sex or who are separated by sex.

(c) Claims for violations of this paragraph may be submitted to the commissioner of the department of education or to the New Hampshire commission on human rights pursuant to RSA 354-A.

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