REGULAR CALENDAR

April 11, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Majority of the Committee on Education to which was referred SB 155-FN-LOCAL,

AN ACT relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets. Having considered the same, report the same with the following resolution: RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Education**
Bill Number:	**SB 155-FN-LOCAL**
Title:	**relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.**
Date:	**April 11, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**REGULAR**
Recommendation:	**INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Education Committee is supportive of transparency in budgeting. The committee heard testimony, however, that the school administrative unit (SAU) budget can already be placed in a separate warrant article without this legislation. There were also questions raised concerning towns that tuition students to multiple districts and towns in multiple SAUs. Some districts make salary and position information available in their annual reports and at budget hearings. There might be future ways in which the intent of this legislation can be achieved.

Vote 15-5.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Education

SB 155-FN-LOCAL, relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets. **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the **Majority** of Education. The Education Committee is supportive of transparency in budgeting. The committee heard testimony, however, that the school administrative unit (SAU) budget can already be placed in a separate warrant article without this legislation. There were also questions raised concerning towns that tuition students to multiple districts and towns in multiple SAUs. Some districts make salary and position information available in their annual reports and at budget hearings. There might be future ways in which the intent of this legislation can be achieved. **Vote 15-5.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

April 11, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Minority of the Committee on Education to which was referred SB 155-FN-LOCAL,

AN ACT relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets. Having considered the same, and being unable to agree with the Majority, report with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Alicia Lekas

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Education**
Bill Number:	**SB 155-FN-LOCAL**
Title:	**relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.**
Date:	**April 11, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**REGULAR**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill revises the procedure for the adoption of the annual budget for school administrative units (SAUs) and repeals the alternative budget adoption procedure. This bill would separate out as a separate line item the full expenses of the SAU which may include the salary and expenses of supervisors of health, physical education, music, art, and guidance, and any other employees, and shall include the expenses necessary for the operation of the SAU. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators, teacher consultants, and the regularly employed office personnel of the SAU office shall be deemed employees of the SAU. More and more frequently, taxpayers are asking what part of the school budget goes to pay for the administration of the SAU. Recently, this author had a constituent ask to meet her and show her how to find that information for herself and other parents. I could not find it on the state website. Little did I know, there is a form all SAUs must fill out annually called A12D which contains all of the pertinent information. If I, as an education member, didn't know this, just imagine how many of the public know of neither iPlatform nor A12D. And yet they want to know the information and to vote on it as a separate line item as they do so many other parts of the school budget, so we should allow them to do so. This would have no additional expense in the preparation of the ballot except for the extra line as this information is already calculated in the SAU's A12D. If the body decides to pass this legislation, then it should also consider voting for the floor amendment which cleans up the original bill pertaining to a single district SAUs.

Rep. Alicia Lekas
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Education

SB 155-FN-LOCAL, relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Alicia Lekas for the **Minority** of Education. This bill revises the procedure for the adoption of the annual budget for school administrative units (SAUs) and repeals the alternative budget adoption procedure. This bill would separate out as a separate line item the full expenses of the SAU which may include the salary and expenses of supervisors of health, physical education, music, art, and guidance, and any other employees, and shall include the expenses necessary for the operation of the SAU. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators, teacher consultants, and the regularly employed office personnel of the SAU office shall be deemed employees of the SAU. More and more frequently, taxpayers are asking what part of the school budget goes to pay for the administration of the SAU. Recently, this author had a constituent ask to meet her and show her how to find that information for herself and other parents. I could not find it on the state website. Little did I know, there is a form all SAUs must fill out annually called A12D which contains all of the pertinent information. If I, as an education member, didn't know this, just imagine how many of the public know of neither iPlatform nor A12D. And yet they want to know the information and to vote on it as a separate line item as they do so many other parts of the school budget, so we should allow them to do so. This would have no additional expense in the preparation of the ballot except for the extra line as this information is already calculated in the SAU's A12D. If the body decides to pass this legislation, then it should also consider voting for the floor amendment which cleans up the original bill pertaining to a single district SAUs.

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 155-FN-LOCAL

BILL TITLE: relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.

DATE: April 11, 2023

LOB ROOM: 205-207

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Cordelli Seconded by Rep. Myler Vote: 15-5

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Arlene Quaratiello, Clerk

OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

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

2023 SESSION

Education

Bill #: SB155 Motion: ITL AM #: Exec Session Date: 4/11/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
Ladd, Rick M. Chairman	15		
Cordelli, Glenn Vice Chairman	1		
Lekas, Alicia D.		1	
Ford, Oliver J. Clerk	2		
Belcher, Mike S.		2	
Drye, Margaret M.		3	
McDonnell, Valerie E.	3		
Noble, Kristin		4	
Peternel, Katy	~~14~~	~~5~~	
Quaratiello, Arlene		~~5~~ 5	
Myler, Mel	4		
Cornell, Patricia	5		
Tanner, Linda L.	6		
Luneau, David J.	7		
Ellison, Arthur S.	8		
Woodcock, Stephen L.	9		
Hall, Muriel C.	10		
Balboni, Peggy	11		
S Cascadden, Corinne E.	12		
Damon, Hope	13		
TOTAL VOTE:	~~14~~ 15	~~4~~ 5	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 155-FN-LOCAL

BILL TITLE: **relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.**

DATE: **March 30, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **205-207** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **11:30am**

Time Adjourned: **12:20pm**

Committee Members: Reps. Ladd, Cordelli, A.Lekas, O. Ford, Belcher, Drye, McDonnell, Peternel, Quaratiello, Myler, Cornell, Tanner, Luneau, Hall, Balboni, Cascadden and Damon

Bill Sponsors:

Sen. Avard	**Sen. Lang**	**Rep. True**
Rep. Layon	**Rep. Sellers**	

TESTIMONY

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

Grant Bosse for Sen. Avard
- Introduced the bill
- Supports
- SAU budget should be separate from school budgets on town ballots to address administrative costs

Rep. Sellers - Co-Sponsor
- Supports
- Legislation gives more transparency to voters, providing information in separate warrant articles for SAU admin budget.

***Winfried Feneberg - SAU65 Superintendent**
- Opposes
- Towns are already free to provide separate warrant articles
- Bill would force towns to create different budgets and would not improve education
- (It) doesn't add transparency
- Submitted written testimony

Jerry Frew - NHSAA
- Opposes
- Administrative costs are increased by legislation like this, even though purpose of bill is to reduce costs according to its supporters.

***Daniel Rossner- SAU Business administrator**
- Opposes
- Local control should be maintained and state mandate avoided
- This bill threatens election integrity
- Submitted written testimony

***Paul Deschaine - Newington Project Manager**

- Supports
- Requested consideration of amendment (see amendment attached) to include other
- methods of apportionment
- Submitted written testimony

***Eric Pauer - SDGA-NH**

- Supports
- Explained differences between multi-district SAUs and single-district SAUs in regards to the implementation of this legislation
- Bill will give voters more transparency
- Submitted written testimony

Scott Gross

- Opposes
- Bill is extremely confusing and difficult to uphold
- It "needs a whole lot more work!"

Dean Cascaddem - SAU67

- Opposes
- Questioned why every town should be required to adopt alternative methodology
- Doesn't understand need for this legislation

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Arlene Quaratiello, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Education Committee Testify List for Bill SB155 on 2023-03-30

Support: 14 Oppose: 97 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Lang, Senator Tim	Sanbornton, NH kathryn.cummings@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Senate District 2	Support	No	No	3/23/2023 9:39 AM
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/23/2023 9:38 PM
Smith, Julie	Nashua, NH cantdog@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/24/2023 7:49 PM
kisch, walter	warner, NH kischwalterf@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/26/2023 7:48 AM
Paludi, Gail	WASHINGTON, NH cpaludi@gsinet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 9:24 AM
Newton, Dan	East Andover, NH bubbadandan@earthlink.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 1:41 PM
Longnecker, Seelye	Salisbury, NH slongnecker@mvsdpride.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 2:14 PM
Pauer, Eric	Brookline, NH secretary@BrooklineGOP.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/26/2023 3:15 PM
Kennedy, Rebecca	Penacook, NH bkennedy@mvsdpride.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 3:17 PM
Michaud, Christi	Boscawen, NH clm75@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 5:26 PM
Gray, Melissa	Bedford, NH Grayme@sau25.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 5:31 PM
Vincent, Laura	Loudon, NH lvlauravincent5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	SAU 46	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 5:55 PM
Seeley, Kelly	Merrimack, NH kelly.seeley@sau41.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/26/2023 8:47 PM

Keyser, Katie	Andover, NH kkeyser@mvsdpride.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:13 AM
Katz-Borrin, Jennifer	Gorham, NH jennifer.katz-borrin@sau20.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:17 AM
Mason, Michelle	Groveton, NH muffymason76@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:32 AM
Lynch, Brian	Penacook, NH blynch@mvsdpride.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:57 AM
Downing, Christine	Bradford (Sutton Mills), NH cdowning@kearsarge.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:59 AM
Wilson, Kathryn	Conway, NH kadiepink@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:05 AM
Burk, Jennifer	Hudson, NH jburk@sau81.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:18 AM
Tillotson, Rebecca	CONCORD, NH rebeccaltowle@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:21 AM
ruiz, jana	Chester, NH ruizj@chesteracademy.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:46 AM
Marsden, Lauren	Epping, NH laurenm.marsden@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:49 AM
Martin, Pamela	Thornton, NH pmartin@pemibaker.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 8:49 AM
Wormald, Randy	Salisbury, NH rjworm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 9:11 AM
Denoncourt, Hilary	Salisbury, NH hilary.denoncourt@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 9:37 AM
Byrne, Nate	Rochester, NH nbyrne@nhsau44.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 10:00 AM
Hills, Kaitlyn	New Durham, NH kghiker@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 10:12 AM
Witte, Lisa A	Swanzey, NH lwitte@mrsd.org	A Member of the Public	Monadnock Regional School District	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 10:18 AM
Beitler, Kirk	Concord, NH beitlerfamily@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 11:03 AM
Doughty, Patrick	Bethlehem, NH patrickdoughty@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 11:14 AM

Costa, Lois	Hampton, NH lcosta@sau90.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 11:15 AM
Boucher, Kathleen	Salisbury, NH Jkbouche@tds.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 11:57 AM
Morin, Nathan	Berlin, NH nathan.morin321@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 1:07 PM
Holden, Russell	Sunapee, NH rholden@sunapeeschools.org	A Member of the Public	85	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 1:09 PM
Reagan, Andrea	Boscawen, NH auntieed@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 1:11 PM
Melanson, Laurie	N. Haverhill, NH lmelanson@sau23org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 1:46 PM
DION, TRISHA	MILFORD, NH MRSDION@GMAIL.COM	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 2:05 PM
Wessells, Kelly	Sunapee, NH kwessells@sunapeeschools.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 3:14 PM
Saunders, Kimberly	Hopkinton, NH saunders.k@northeastern.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 3:15 PM
CRawford, Jennifer	Keene, NH jmc32795@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 4:07 PM
Fortson, Jane	SWANZEY, NH fortsy@netzero.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 4:32 PM
Harrington, Owen	Boscawen, NH oharrington@bownet.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 5:20 PM
Fenn, James	Enfield, NH p944na@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 7:59 PM
Mercer, Jennifer	Loudon, NH jenannmercer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/27/2023 8:04 PM
Wheeler, Stephanie	Penacook, NH slwheeler3@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 9:04 PM
George, Kelly	Penacook, NH kgeorge@mvsdpride.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/27/2023 9:25 PM
Schoonover, Ryanne	Hanover, NH ryanneschoonover@sau70.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 7:46 AM
Bergquist, Amanda	Moultonborough, NH abergquist@sau45.org	A Member of the Public	SAU#45 Moultonborough School District	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:07 AM

VAYDA, CHRISTINE	EPPING, NH christine.vayda@eppingsd.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:15 AM
Richard, Kevin	Center Conway, NH KRICHARD@SAU9.ORG	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:24 AM
Thompson, Debbie	Penacook, NH debdg@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:31 AM
Ouellette, Brigitte	Conway, NH b_ouellette@sau9.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:33 AM
Bickford, Jessica	Barnstead, NH eessa38@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:50 AM
Steiner, Robin	Hanover, NH robinsteiner@sau70.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:58 AM
Hannan, Katie	Wilton, NH taffyfans@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 10:26 AM
Schmidt, Lori	Richmond, NH lorealrs@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 11:39 AM
Leigh, Amie	Gilford, NH aleigh@sau73.org	A Member of the Public	SAU #73	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 11:44 AM
Gazaway, Marion	Concord, NH mcgazaway@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 12:10 PM
HasBrouck, Derek	Lancaster, NH derek.hasbrouck@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 12:11 PM
Henry, Mary	Langdon, NH mary.henry1924@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 2:37 PM
Repucci, Kyle	Lee, NH kylerepucci@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 3:37 PM
McGann, Judith	Lincoln, NH jmcgann@lin-wood.org	A Member of the Public	SAU 68	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 4:35 PM
O'Connor, Debbie	Lincoln, NH doconnor@lin-wood.org	A Member of the Public	SAU #68	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 4:36 PM
Swasey, Jill	HAMPTON FALLS, NH jswasey@sau21.org	An Elected Official	SAU21 / Hampton Falls	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:09 PM
Keiser, Christina	Seabrook, NH ckeiser@sau21.org	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:11 PM
Cico, Nicole	Hampton, NH nicole_cico@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:12 PM

MARSCHOK, BRENDA	GREENFIELD, NH bmarschok@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:12 PM
Lafond, Leslie	Hampton, NH leslielafond@comcast.net	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:13 PM
Evans, Rhonda	Seabrook, NH rhonda1320ev@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:16 PM
Strater, Danielle	North Hampton, NH dstrater@sau21.org	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:17 PM
Nadeau, Meredith	Lee, NH msnadeau@bu.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:20 PM
Toomey, Mary	Atkinson, NH mat7115@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 8:20 PM
Goudreau, Charles	Atkinson, NH Crgoudreau@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/28/2023 10:15 PM
Hromjak, Janet	Milford, NH Jchromjak@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 6:07 AM
Goudreau, Stephanie	Atkinson, NH Steph5197@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 6:09 AM
Aiello-Cunha, Candice	Brookline, NH icancunha@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 8:55 AM
Sears, Charlene	Exeter, NH csears829@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:46 AM
McCay, Donna	North Hampton, NH mccayfam@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:47 AM
McCay, Morgan	North Hampton, NH mccayfam@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:49 AM
Tuite, Deborah	Auburn, NH tuite7@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:49 AM
Brown, Kyle	Seabrook, NH kdbrown942@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:54 AM
Ferreira, Matthew	Hampton, NH mferreira@sau21.org	A Member of the Public	SAU 21 (Winnacunnet, Seabrook, Hampton Falls, North Hampton, South Hampton)	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 10:54 AM
Tuttle, Nancy	North Hampton, NH ntuttle@sau21.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 11:08 AM
Gagalis, Lisa	North Hampton, NH	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 11:14 AM

	lgagalis@sau21.org						
Feneberg, Winfried	New London, NH Jillwinfen@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 1:50 PM
Gosselin, Nancy	Hampton Falls, NH ngosselin18@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 2:04 PM
Bartholomew, Kenneth	Warner, NH kcb@rathlaw.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 2:13 PM
Pauer, Diane	Brookline, NH staterep@dianepauer.com	An Elected Official	Brookline/Mason/Greenville	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 2:27 PM
Seigel, Donna	North Hampton, NH Fredseigel@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 3:32 PM
Mastin, Alison	Wilmot, NH amastin@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 3:58 PM
Yenchick, Ann	North Hampton, NH yenchicka@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 4:06 PM
Smallwood, Carrie	North Hampton, NH carriesmallwood@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 4:19 PM
DeAngelis, Katie	Nottingham, NH katie.e.deangelis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	SAU 107	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 4:27 PM
Cook, Lisa	NORTH HAMPTON, NH lisadder@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 4:57 PM
sellers, john	bristol, NH johnyochanan@protonmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 5:12 PM
Paradise, Mary	Pittsfield, NH maryparad@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 5:42 PM
Potter, Desiree	Hampton Falls, NH Desireepotternh@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 7:01 PM
Potter, Brandon	Hampton Falls, NH Bpotter@cptax.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 7:04 PM
Betz, Diane	North Hampton, NH Diane.betz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 7:58 PM
Perrault, John	North Hampton, NH rockweed@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 8:00 PM
Betz, Paul	North Hampton, NH Pbetz58@sbcglobal.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 8:35 PM
Andrus, Rep Louise	Salsibury, NH	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 9:29 PM

	louiseandrus00@gmail.com						
Black, Wendy	North Hampton, NH wmerrillb1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/29/2023 9:43 PM
Freedman, Aubrey	Bridgewater, NH aubreyyfreedman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 11:20 PM
Wojcicki, Cynthia	North Hampton, NH wojo9131@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/30/2023 7:02 AM
Avard, Senator Kevin	Nashua, NH kevin.avard@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/30/2023 8:48 AM
Ford, Duane	Bow, NH dford@bownet.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/30/2023 9:39 AM
Ambrosio, Lisa	Bedford, NH ambrosiol@bedfordnhk12.net	A Member of the Public	SAU#25/Bedford School District	Oppose	No	No	3/30/2023 11:18 AM
Bessette, MIchael	Bow, NH mbessette@kearsarge.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/30/2023 11:25 AM
SAUNDERS, ROBERT	CONTOOCOOK, NH robert_j_saunders@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/30/2023 2:24 PM

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: SB155-FN-LOCAL Date: 3/30/23

Committee: EDUCATION

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

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Rep John Potocek			Rock. 13	(A)	
Daniel Rossner	341 Simon Rd Ho Hanover	603 536 3572			(X)
Jerry Frew			NHSAA		X
Dean S.T. Cascadden		SAU 67			X
Paul Deschaine	209 Kimble Hill Rd Newington	603 944-3146		X	
Eric Pauer	Brookline		SDGA-NH	X	
Rep Diane Pauer	Brookline		Hills. 36	X	
Rep Sellers	Bristol		Grafton 18	X	
Scott					

The Town Of Newington
New Hampshire

Established 1713

Office Of
Selectmen

March 30, 2023

Dear Members of the House Education Committee,

Please see attached a proposed amendment to SB 155 being heard by the House Education Committee this Thursday, March 30, 2023. It has been redlined with Newington's proposed language approved by the Board of Selectmen.

We respectfully request that you amend this bill, to reflect the redline wording as attached. The town would just like the opportunity to ask SAU #50 school districts (which comprises the towns of Newington, Rye, Greenland and New Castle) to consider a different formula for assessing local school taxes to each of the school districts for SAU services. The current State law only allows districts to use the ½ enrollment and ½ assessed value apportionment as described under RSA 194-C:9 I Budget. Schools districts should be able to implement alternative funding formulas that are mutually agreeable.

Newington is not alone in wishing to have the ability to discuss alternative SAU funding plans with fellow SAU member communities that address unique tax based considerations and student enrollments within their communities. The current legislation is a one size fits all determinate of funding SAU operations that may not be entirely fair for all members of an SAU. The proposed amendment allows for consideration and discussion of alternative funding models in keeping with local control of education services.

We are glad to discuss this with you at your convenience.

Best regards,

Martha S. Roy
Town Administrator
Town of Newington
205 Nimble Hill Road
Newington, NH 03801
mroy@townofnewingtonnh.com
603-436-7640 ext. 6

Paul R. Deschaine
Project Manager
Town of Newington
205 Nimble Hill Road
Newington, NH 03801
pdeschaine@townofnewingtonnh.com
Office (603) 436-7640
Cell (603) 944-3146

Attachment

The Town Of Newington
New Hampshire
Established 1713

Office Of
Selectmen

Election Law and Municipal Affairs March 7,
2023
2023-0809s
10/07

Amendment to SB 155-FN-LOCAL

Amend RSA 194-C:9, II as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

II. ***The*** provisions of this paragraph apply to school administrative units ***comprising 2 or more districts.*** The school administrative unit board shall apportion the total amount of the budget among the constituent school districts in the following manner: The apportionment shall be based 1/2 on the average membership in attendance for the previous school year and 1/2 on the most recently available equalized valuation of each district as of June 30 of the preceding school year~~.~~, or such other methods as the constituent school districts may approve. Prior to January 15 in each year, the board shall certify to the chairperson of the school board of each constituent school district the amount so apportioned. Each district within a school administrative unit shall raise at the next annual district meeting the sum of money apportioned to it by the school administrative unit board for the expenses of services which each district received in connection with the school administrative unit office. The school administrative unit board in adopting the budget shall not add any new service to the school administrative unit budget unless a majority of the school districts in the school administrative unit representing not less than 60 percent of the total pupils in the school administrative unit have voted favorably upon the establishment of the service. A vote to accept a new service shall not be construed as a vote to raise and appropriate money within the meaning of RSA 197:3.

Amend the bill by inserting after section 2 the following and renumbering the original section 3 to read as 4:

3 Single District School Administrative Units; Exemption. Amend RSA 194-C:3 to read as follows:

194-C:3 Single District School Administrative Units; Exemption. Single district school administrative units shall be considered the same as a single school district and shall be exempt from meeting the requirements of this chapter, except that they shall provide superintendent services pursuant to RSA 194-C:4***, they shall conduct a public hearing under RSA 194-C:10,*** **and they shall adopt a budget and conduct budget voting pursuant to RSA 194-C:9.**

205 Nimble Hill Road • Newington, NH 03801 • (603) 436-7640 • Fax (603) 436-7188 • email: selectmen@newington.nh.us

SB155-FN-L - "Relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets."

Testimony in Favor by Eric Pauer, sb@nhengineer.com
President, School District Governance Association of NH (SDGA) (https://www.sdganh.org)
Bill Sponsors: Sen. Avard (R), Sen. Lang (R), Rep. True (R), Rep. Layon (R), Rep. Sellers (R)

- **Every NH school district belongs to a School Administrative Unit (SAU)**
  - Single school district SAUs: 81
  - Multiple school district (multi-district) SAUs: 24

- **Annual Reporting**
  - Annually all SAUs must file their "A12D - Central Office Personnel" form to the Dept. of Education which accounts for all members of the SAU (Central Office) by Full-Time Equivalents (FTE); deadline late October
  - https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-and-analytic-resources/bureau-of-education-statistics/forms-instructions

- **Single District SAU Budgeting**
  - Accounting methods vary significantly
  - Some SAUs do cleanly breakout SAU office costs, but a majority just breakout some SAU office costs and others just roll SAU office expenses into other categories
  - Different SAU accounting terms recently found in FY24 school district budgets that are single district SAUs:
    - "Support Svcs", "Administrator", "Wages Full Time", "Salaries", "Business", "Official/Admin Serv. (SAU)", "SAU (no salaries or benefits)", "School Administrative Service", "Central Office", "Office of the Superintendent", "General Admin"
  - In most cases, it is not clear or obvious how much is being spent on the SAU office

- **Multi-District SAU Budgeting**
  - SAU budget planning occurs in the fall each year
  - Accounting methods are consistent, as the SAU office costs must be known to be properly apportioned across member school districts (RSA 194-C:9 requires 50% ADM/50% EV apportionment)
  - Accounting code 2320 is used, sometimes augmented with 2321, 2322, 2323 codes
  - The budget committees from the school districts are advisory only for setting SAU budget
  - A public hearing for proposed SAU budget must be held before Jan 1 (typically mid to late December)
  - At that point, the SAU governing board sets and approves a SAU budget
  - SAU budget and its apportionment to school districts are set, but cannot be modified‡
    - ‡ If the SAU has adopted the alternative budget procedure in RSA 194-C:9-b, then there is also an "adjusted budget" (like SB2 default budget)
  - The apportioned SAU budget becomes an unamendable "District Assessment" in each school district operating budget (possibly with the choice of an "adjusted budget" if RSA 194-C:9-b adopted)

- **SAU Alternative Budget Procedure (RSA 194-C:9-b)**
  - Available only to multi-district SAUs. Currently adopted only in 3 SAUs statewide (SAU 13, SAU 34, SAU 41)
  - On each school district warrant, this procedure provides the voters an SAU budget warrant article, with the choice between the proposed budget and the adjusted budget (no new spending, one-time expenses removed, etc., like SB2 default budget)
    - Ballot vote is tallied among all districts; a majority approval adopts proposed budget, otherwise the adjusted budget is adopted
  - Quite challenging to adopt this procedure in practice
    - Typically question to adopt is placed on warrants by citizens' petition, requiring the same petition warrant article to be filed in all districts the same year (requiring coordinated effort with signatures from each district)
    - Typically question to rescind is placed on warrants by the school boards, who simply place the warrant article in all districts in the same year
  - Requires majority vote to adopt and majority vote to rescind; threshold to change is low

SB155-FN-L - "Relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets."

Testimony in Favor by Eric Pauer, sb@nhengineer.com
President, School District Governance Association of NH (SDGA) (https://www.sdganh.org)
Bill Sponsors: Sen. Avard (R), Sen. Lang (R), Rep. True (R), Rep. Layon (R), Rep. Sellers (R)

- **Current Education Spending Trends**
  - Spending on public education is rapidly increasing nationwide and in NH
  - Spending on school administrators is driving much of this increase, some believe at the expense of teachers
    - 2000-2019: Hillsdale College President Dr. Larry Arnn
      - Data from U.S. Dept Education, Center for Education Statistics
      - Number of U.S. public school district administrators grew 79%, public school teachers grew 8.7%
      - https://imprimis.hillsdale.edu/education-as-a-battleground/
    - 2001-2021: NH State Board of Education Member Ryan Terrell (Jan 2, 2023 – Union Leader Editorial)
      - Adjusted for inflation: NH cost per pupil up 77%, but teachers' salaries up just 1%
      - Number of NH non-teaching staff (typically administrators) up 80%, number of teachers up just 23%
  - In NH, many school administrators are employed in the SAU - highest paid employees in NH public schools
    - This year, 10 Superintendents are paid at least $170K, with one being paid $192,651
    - There are 51 Assistant Superintendents in the state; eight SAUs have two or more assistants
    - https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-and-analytic-resources/bureau-of-education-statistics/staffing-and-salary-reports
  - SAU personnel growth and SAU budget growth is a significant challenge, despite falling student enrollment
  - Why are SAU budgets growing rapidly?
    - Most single district SAUs do not have a transparent SAU office budget
    - Most multi-district SAUs typically have a non-amendable SAU budget, which becomes part of the operating budget. Approved SAU budget is set in December and cannot be changed
    - In both cases, SAU budget is not easily visible to the average voter, so SAU budgets grow

- **Solution – Challenges solved by SB155**
  - Requires the budget and balloting procedure in RSA 194-C:9 to be used by all school districts
  - Ensures all SAUs, especially single district SAUs, provide a known, transparent SAU budget
  - The only "extra" efforts are
    - All SAUs must hold a public SAU Budget Hearing
    - For single district SAUs, they need to update practices to properly account for the SAU office budget (accounting for the personnel count, on their A12D form)
      - Multi-district SAUs already properly account for the SAU office budget
  - Provides clarity to voters since the SAU Budget is a separate warrant article each year
  - Directly empowers voters in all districts in the SAU to decide between the proposed SAU budget or the adjusted SAU budget, via a ballot vote
  - When a SAU budget proposal is transparent and gets voter scrutiny, it will tend to drive more responsible and sustainable budgeting in our SAUs

- **Please recommend OTP on SB155**

Winfried Feneberg, CAGS
Superintendent of Schools

Michael Bessette, CAGS
Assistant Superintendent

Lawrence LeBoeuf, BS
Business Administrator

Lawrence Elliott, MEd
Director of Student Support Services

March 30, 2023

House Education Committee
New Hampshire House of Representatives
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Written Testimony in ***OPPOSITION*** *to* ***Senate Bill 155***

Honorable Members of House Education:

I come before you to oppose Senate Bill 155. SB155 seeks to force school districts to develop and present in a separate warrant article the budget for their School Administrative Units (SAU). I represent the Kearsarge Regional School District whose seven towns of Bradford, Newbury, New London, Springfield, Sutton, Warner, and Wilmot have chosen to include the SAU budget as part of the district budget since the inception of the district and the formation of SAU65. Voters in the district have always been informed, are fully aware and clear about the total expenses of the SAU, and actively execute their right to provide input and feedback to the School Board and Municipal Budget Committee about any expenses proposed in the budget.

Districts are free to create separate warrant articles for any budget items they want their legislative body to vote on. Those districts and SAUs are free to continue that practice with or without passage of SB155. For districts like mine that have chosen to include their SAU expenses in their overall district budget, SB155 does nothing but cast an additional burden on the operations of the district. There is no improvement of current practice. There is no increase in efficiency. There is no additional transparency for the citizens of the district. On the contrary: this bill solves a problem that does not exist, it forces the School Board and Municipal Budget Committee to develop three budgets instead of one, and it does nothing to improve the quality of education in the Kearsarge District. In fact, it has the very real potential to hamper the ability of a district and SAU to hire the appropriate and skilled personnel to lead the organization, particularly if staff retire, relocate, or take positions in other districts, and need to be replaced after budgets are voted for.

You should be primarily concerned about finding ways to effectively and efficiently support the education of our children in New Hampshire, not making it more cumbersome for public schools to serve the public! I urge you to vote against passage of SB155.

Respectfully submitted,
Winfried Feneberg
Superintendent of Schools, SAU 65

Testimony of Daniel Rossner at State of NH House Education Committee

Thursday, March 30th, 2023

RE: SB155

Thank you Chairman Ladd and Honorable members of the House Education Committee for allowing me the opportunity to provide comment and context on the Senate Bill 155, currently before you for consideration. As the Business Administrator for SAU #48, I believe I am well qualified to provide boots on the ground input as to the significant concerns and challenges that would exist in implementing this contemplated legislation. As a point of note, I would also share that I am the Town Moderator (but not School District) for my town of residence.

Please know that SAU#48 is the most complex SAU in New Hampshire, with oversight for nine (9) independent school districts. Seven of our districts are traditional meeting style for their annual warrant consideration, and two follow SB2. Please know that in SAU#48 we pride ourselves on transparency and open meetings. During the tenure of our current leadership, former President of Right-to-Know New Hampshire David Saad, when testifying before the House praised our approach as being a model of transparency and open government.

When understanding how complex multi-district SAUs are at times, consider this uniquely New Hampshire condition: The Ashland School District operates a single school, grades K-8. The Ashland School District is a member of SAU #2 (Inter-lakes), a two District SAU. However, the Town of Ashland, is a member of the Pemi-Baker Regional School District, a seven town cooperative district that is a member of SAU#48. So, in essence, voters in Ashland have input into two different SAU budgets. Similarly, a town such as Plymouth has the Plymouth School District (K-8) a member of SAU #48, as well as membership in the aforementioned multi town cooperative Pemi-Baker District. Do the voters of Plymouth get two votes on the budget of SAU #48? How does this square with our one-(hu)man/one-vote democracy? Does it disenfranchise the Ashland voter who only gets one vote on the SAU #48 budget?

Clearly in my mind, the existing process is both open, transparent, and available for multi-faceted representation. Specifically: the forty-seven (47) independently elected School Board Members of the member School Districts of SAU #48 (which comprises the full Board of this SAU) come together and adopt a single budget for the operations of the SAU. Each of these elected individuals takes input from their various constituencies and carries a single vote "into the booth". This is the democratic process.

Are you ready for the budget you have been elected to build, and which the State Legislature works tirelessly to adopt, to go before every Town, City, & Voter for reconsideration prior to acceptance?

Finally, I would offer that as a Moderator, I am particularly troubled by the logistical and fraud prone operational expectations contained within the existing bill (as contemplated) in Part IV (C)(2). The notion of transporting ballots around from District to District seems untenable. Are we going to burden local law enforcement with the security detail for such as now happens in some elections? What if the process finishes after the local agency is off-duty for the night; do we call mutual aid or the State Police?

Some may say the answer is a single locked ballot box that moves from District meeting to District meeting. What about when there are multiple District meetings occurring on the same day and/or time? It happens. Surely the legislature does not intend to strip the local governing body of the authority to select when and where their annual meetings are to be held? My last point on this concern is that of the burden on the local election staff of a small town, that is also a District that is part of a much larger SAU. If the schedule results in their meeting being the final of the cycle, what burden falls on the Moderator of that School District to count the thousands of votes from around the SAU? You may think I am spinning unrealistic scenarios, but consider this: The Ellsworth School District is so small, it doesn't operate a school, it tuitions it's kids into the other Districts of the SAU. There are about 90 citizens (10-12 students) total (93 in the 2020 census). Is the Ellsworth District Moderator now charged with counting the thousands of votes from all nine of our Districts that SAU48 supports? It seems inappropriate.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to vote Inexpedient to Legislate on this disaster in the making.

SB 155-FN-LOCAL - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

03/16/2023 0809s

2023 SESSION

23-0759
10/05

SENATE BILL ***155-FN-LOCAL***

AN ACT relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.

SPONSORS: Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Rep. True, Rock. 9; Rep. Layon, Rock. 13; Rep. Sellers, Graf. 18

COMMITTEE: Election Law and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill revises the procedure for the adoption of the annual budget for school administrative units and repeals the alternative budget adoption procedure.

- -

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.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.

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

1 School Administrative Units; Budget Adoption. Amend RSA 194-C:9 to read as follows:

194-C:9 Budget.

I. At a meeting held before January 1, the school administrative unit board***, or school board for school administrative units comprising only one district,*** shall adopt a budget required for the expenses of the school administrative unit for the next fiscal year, which budget may include the salary and expenses of supervisors of health, physical education, music, art, and guidance, and any other employees, and shall include the expenses necessary for the operation of the school administrative unit. Superintendents, assistant superintendents, business administrators, teacher consultants, and the regularly employed office personnel of the school administrative unit office shall be deemed employees of the school administrative unit for the purposes of payment of salaries and contributions to the employee's retirement system of the state of New Hampshire and workers' compensation.

II. The provisions of this paragraph apply to school administrative units comprising 2 or more districts. The school administrative unit board shall apportion the total amount of the budget among the constituent school districts in the following manner: The apportionment shall be based 1/2 on the average membership in attendance for the previous school year and 1/2 on the most recently available equalized valuation of each district as of June 30 of the preceding school year. Prior to January 15 in each year, the board shall certify to the chairperson of the school board of each constituent school district the amount so apportioned. Each district within a school administrative unit shall raise at the next annual district meeting the sum of money apportioned to it by the school administrative unit board for the expenses of services which each district received in connection with the school administrative unit office. The school administrative unit board in adopting the budget shall not add any new service to the school administrative unit budget unless a majority of the school districts in the school administrative unit representing not less than 60 percent of the total pupils in the school administrative unit have voted favorably upon the establishment of the service. A vote to accept a new service shall not be construed as a vote to raise and appropriate money within the meaning of RSA 197:3.

III. For those districts without an annual meeting, the vote on the school administrative unit budget adopted according to RSA 194-C:9, I and II, shall be taken by the legislative body.

IV.(a) The provisions of this paragraph apply to districts with an annual meeting.

(b) The school administrative unit budget adopted according to RSA 194-C:9, I and II, shall be placed before the voters of each school district of that school administrative unit in a separate warrant article at the annual school district meeting. Wording of the warrant article shall be as follows:

"Shall the voters of _____ (name of school district) _____ adopt a school administrative unit budget of $_____ for the forthcoming fiscal year in which $_____ is assigned to the school budget of this school district?

This year's adjusted budget of $_____, with $_____ assigned to the school budget of this school district, will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit."

(c) The adjusted budget in the warrant article shall be that of the previous year adjusted for continuing contracts. Notwithstanding RSA 32 and RSA 40:13, the budget adopted by the school administrative unit board, or school board for school administrative units comprising a single district, shall not be amended or changed in any way prior to the vote. The school district moderator shall cause a vote by paper ballot to be taken, record the number of yeas and nays, and announce the result of the vote at the annual meeting.

(1) For school administrative units comprising a single district, the moderator shall deliver the ballots to the secretary of the school administrative unit.

(2) For school administrative units comprising 2 or more districts, the ballots shall be delivered to the moderator of the school district with the latest chronological annual meeting. The moderator of the latest chronological annual meeting shall record the total number of yeas and nays, announce the results of the final vote on the question of adopting the school administrative unit budget, and deliver the ballots to the secretary of the school administrative unit.

(d) A majority of voters voting in favor shall result in adoption of the budget proposed by the school administrative unit board. If the article receives less than a majority vote, the budget amount accepted shall be that of the previous year adjusted for continuing contracts (adjusted budget). After a vote on the school administrative unit budget, the secretary of the school administrative unit shall place the ballots and all envelopes or wrapping which had previously contained them in a suitable container showing the contents and the date of the vote. The ballots shall be retained for 60 days from the date of the vote or any recount, unless further preservation is necessary or unless disposal is enjoined by the superior court. Any registered voter who resides in a school district within the school administrative unit may, in writing, petition the secretary of the school administrative unit for a recount of the vote no later than the Friday following the latest chronological annual meeting of school districts in the school administrative unit. The secretary shall schedule a recount, to be conducted by the school administrative unit,

not earlier than 5 days nor later than 10 days after the date the secretary receives the petition.

2 Repeal. RSA 194-C:9-a and RSA 194-C:9-b, relative to SAU alternative budget adoption procedure, are repealed.

3 Single District School Administrative Units; Exemption. Amend RSA 194-C:3 to read as follows:

194-C:3 Single District School Administrative Units; Exemption. Single district school administrative units shall be considered the same as a single school district and shall be exempt from meeting the requirements of this chapter, except that they shall provide superintendent services pursuant to RSA 194-C:4***, they shall conduct a public hearing under RSA 194-C:10, and they shall adopt a budget and conduct budget voting pursuant to RSA 194-C:9***.

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

LBA
23-0759
1/11/23

SB 155-FN-LOCAL- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT relative to the adoption of school administrative unit budgets.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Due to time constraints, the Office of Legislative Budget Assistant is unable to provide a fiscal note for this bill, **as introduced**, at this time. When completed, the fiscal note will be forwarded to the Senate Clerk's Office.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education