

Senate Education Finance Committee

Karen Davis 271-7875

SB 513-FN, requiring schools to engage an owner's project manager for construction of school building aid projects at the time of application.

Hearing Date: January 22, 2026

Time Opened: 10:35 am

Time Closed: 10:40 am

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Murphy, Innis, Ward, Rosenwald and Altschiller

Members of the Committee Absent: Senator Carson

Bill Analysis: This bill requires schools to have engaged the services of an owner's project manager at the time they apply for school building aid.

Sponsors:

Sen. Abbas

Sen. Innis

Sen. Watters

Sen. Sullivan

Sen. Avarad

Sen. Murphy

Sen. Long

Sen. McConkey

Rep. Donnelly

Rep. Janigian

Rep. D. Mannion

Rep. Sweeney

Who supports the bill: Sen. Daniel Innis, Sen. Mark McConkey

Who opposes the bill: Francesca Heap, Amy Erickson, Linda Burnap, Marlise Bryant, Alex Koutrobas (Associated General Contractors of NH), Jennifer McCarthy, Susan Moore, Debrah Howes (AFT-NH), Kathleen Malsbenden

Who is neutral on the bill: Mark Manganiello, NH Department of Education

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Grant Bosse, Deputy Chief of Staff, NH Senate

Introduced bill on behalf of Prime Sponsor, **Sen. Daryl Abbas**

- This is the “second at bat” for this bill, which Sen. Abbas introduced last year as SB 209. That bill was revised in the House, and the Senate could not concur on the bill’s final form.
- This bill would require schools applying for the state building aid program to engage a project manager at the start, when they file their paperwork.

- This is a common, almost universal practice which saves money and improves efficiency. It also safeguards state and local tax dollars.
- Sen. Abbas believes that school districts should “check this box” before they apply for state building aid.
- Q: **Sen. Murphy** – “It is my understanding that we passed this bill on consent last year, correct?”
- A: **Mr. Bosse** did not know that for certain, but it was not a controversial issue.
- Q: **Sen. Rosenwald** – “If a district is applying for school building aid, could that cause the school district to spend taxpayer money when they are not going to get any school building aid?”
- A: **Mr. Bosse** will ask Sen. Abbas.

Neutral Information Presented:

Mark Manganiello, Bureau of School Finance, NH Department of Education

- Mr. Manganiello spoke to the Administrator of School Facilities when preparing the fiscal note.
- The cost for this bill will be about 1%-5% of the project. Typically, that works out to the \$150,000-\$200,000 range, depending on the size of the project.
- The department does not have data on the cost of engaging a project manager prior to receiving an award. The cost would be based on local rates.

KJD

Date Hearing Report completed: January 25, 2026