

# Senate Education Committee

*Trevor Currier 271-4151*

**HB 1503**, allowing the department of education to allocate funds to create a database of maps of public schools for emergency use cases.

**Hearing Date:** March 10, 2026

**Time Opened:** 9:45 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 9:56 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Ward, Sullivan, Abbas, Prentiss and Altschiller

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill allows the department of education to allocate funds to create a database of maps of public schools for emergency use cases.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. Ladd  
Rep. Damon

Rep. Popovici-Muller  
Rep. Kofalt

Rep. Peeples  
Sen. Sullivan

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**Who supports the bill:** Representative Toni Weinstein, Representative Popovici-Muller, Representative Nick Germana, and Katherine Pouliot

**Who opposes the bill:** Cory Stone, Priscilla Dube, Mehgan Boudreau, and Tami Lanzillo Zeimetz

**Who is neutral on the bill:** Tim Carney (DOE), Ashley Krivosh

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Representative Daniel Popovici-Muller, *Rockingham 17***

- Representative Popovici-Muller introduced and testified in support of HB 1503 on behalf of Representative Rick Ladd.
- Rep. Popovici-Muller emphasized that the bill was unanimously approved in the committee and passed in the House on the consent calendar.
- He stated the bill requires the Department of Education to create school maps to share with agencies that respond in a school crisis to ensure effective communication and responses.

- Senator Altschiller asked if there was a triggering event that led to this legislation. He responded that he is not aware of a specific incident, but the goal is to prevent the lesson from being learned the hard way.
- Senator Prentiss inquired if there was coordination with the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. He stated that the department would be heavily involved in the process, but he could not confirm whether Representative Ladd had spoken with that specific department.
- Senator Altschiller asked whether the Department of Education has mapping capabilities, as no fiscal note is included in the bill. He mentioned that the department is expected to implement the legislation without additional funding, and if extra money is needed, it can be allocated in the next budget cycle.
- Senator Altschiller asked for clarification because the bill's effective date is upon passage; therefore, funding would be needed this year. He responded that it is within the department's discretion and that the department can always go to the Fiscal Committee.
- Senator Sullivan asked if this bill creates a fund as a place to hold money, but it does not allocate any funding. He responded that this bill grants the Public School Infrastructure Committee the authority to do the work because they currently lack it.

**Summary of testimony presented in opposition:**

**Neutral Information Presented:**

**Tim Carney, *New Hampshire Department of Education***

- Mr. Carney established that the department is working with the Department of Homeland Security and Director Buxton.
- He stated that the department is currently working on the RFP for the mapping of schools statewide.
- He stated that the Public School Infrastructure Commission met and chose to allocate \$2.8 Million. He said that he believed Representative Ladd wanted this bill to clarify that the Commission has the authority to do this work.
- Senator Altschiller clarified that the RFP is in progress and there are no legislative barriers preventing the department from executing this work. He also stated that the department has the necessary funds from the Commission and has already started the work under the Commission's guidance.