

HB 1132 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2315

12/08

HOUSE BILL **1132**

AN ACT prohibiting the display of certain flags in public schools and public charter schools and establishing penalties for the display of prohibited flags.

SPONSORS: Rep. Freeman, Belk. 8; Rep. Bean, Belk. 6; Rep. Colcombe, Hills. 30; Rep. Ford, Rock. 3; Rep. Harvey-Bolia, Belk. 3; Rep. Litchfield, Rock. 32; Rep. L. Miner, Rock. 7; Rep. Thibault, Merr. 25; Sen. Avard, Dist 12

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the display of certain flags in public schools and public charter schools and establishes penalties for the display of prohibited flags. The bill also authorizes the state board of education to issue monetary penalties for a third or subsequent violation of the act.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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-Six

AN ACT prohibiting the display of certain flags in public schools and public charter schools and establishing penalties for the display of prohibited flags.

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

1 1 New Section; Display of Flags Prohibited. Amend RSA 189 by inserting after section 17-b the
2 following new section:

3 189:17-c Display of Flags Prohibited. All public schools and public charter schools shall be
4 prohibited from displaying any flag inside or outside of school buildings other than the flag of the
5 United States of America, the New Hampshire state flag, and the POW/MIA flag.

6 I. Flags exempt from this section shall include:

7 (a) Flags used for instruction in foreign languages, world geography, and United States
8 history classes.

9 (b) Flags representing a branch of the United States military.

10 (c) An official city or town flag of a city or town located in the state of New Hampshire.

11 II. Any violation of this section shall result in a formal complaint being issued to the school
12 superintendent, who within 5 days of receipt of the complaint shall determine the complaint's
13 validity. If the superintendent finds the complaint constitutes a violation of this section, the
14 superintendent shall order the immediate removal of the prohibited flag from school premises,
15 unless such flag was already removed, as well as issue the following penalties:

16 (a) For a first violation of this section, a warning shall be issued to the perpetrator of the
17 offense.

18 (b) For a second violation of this section, the superintendent and local school board or
19 governing body of a public charter school shall determine and issue a disciplinary action against the
20 perpetrator of the offense.

21 (c) For a third violation and any additional violation of this section, the superintendent
22 shall report the violation to the state board of education, which shall have the authority to issue
23 penalties in accordance with 21-N:11, VI.

24 2 New Paragraph; State Board of Education; Duties of the Board; Penalties. Amend RSA 21-
25 N:11 by inserting after paragraph V the following new paragraph:

26 VI. Issue monetary penalties relative to violations of 189:17-c, II(c), not to exceed \$1,000 per
27 violation.

28 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect September 1, 2026.