

HB 1729-FN-A - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-3224

07/09

HOUSE BILL ***1729-FN-A***

AN ACT relative to the creation of a centralized enterprise resource planning service, and making an appropriation therefor.

SPONSORS: Rep. Luneau, Merr. 9; Rep. Damon, Sull. 8

COMMITTEE: Education Funding

ANALYSIS

This bill directs the department of education to solicit and assist in operating request for proposals for enterprise resource planning platforms and makes appropriations therefor.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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-Six

AN ACT relative to the creation of a centralized enterprise resource planning service, and making an appropriation therefor.

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

1 1 Short Title. This act may be known and cited as the "Centralized School ERP Procurement
2 Act".

3 2 Statement of Findings. The general court hereby finds that:

4 I. School districts expend significant resources maintaining disparate administrative
5 systems for finance, human resources, student information, payroll, procurement, and facilities.

6 II. A centralized, vendor-hosted enterprise resource planning (ERP) service could yield cost
7 savings, interoperability, standardized reporting, improved data security, and streamlined
8 administrative capacity.

9 III. The department of education is well-positioned to design a procurement that meets
10 statewide and local needs.

11 IV. This legislation will require the department of education to develop and issue a
12 competitive request for proposals (RFP) for qualified vendors to provide a centralized, optional
13 enterprise resource planning service for New Hampshire public school districts.

14 V. This legislation will require the department of education to provide technical assistance
15 and transition planning to districts that elect to participate.

16 3 New Subdivision; Request for Proposals for Enterprise Resource Planning Platforms. Amend
17 RSA 21-N by inserting after section 13 the following new subdivision:

18 Request for Proposals for Enterprise Resource Planning Platforms

19 21-N:14 Definitions. As used in this subdivision:

20 I. "ERP service" means a cloud-hosted, vendor-supported enterprise resource planning
21 platform or suite of interoperable modules that provides, at minimum, financial management,
22 human resources and payroll, student information systems, special education case management,
23 procurement, fixed assets, reporting and analytics, role-based security, data export/import
24 interfaces, and disaster recovery.

25 II. "Department" means the department of education.

26 III. "Participating district" means a public school district, charter school, or public academy
27 that elects to subscribe to the centralized ERP service pursuant to procurement terms.

28 21-N:15 Stakeholder Engagement.

1 I. By November 1, 2026, the department shall develop a draft of a competitive request for
2 proposal (RFP) for procuring a centralized ERP service as defined in RSA 21-N:14, I. The draft RFP
3 shall:

4 (a) Describe required system capabilities and minimum functional modules, technical
5 and security standards, including compliance with state data privacy and security laws and federal
6 FERPA requirements, interoperability standards and APIs, hosting and disaster recovery
7 requirements, service level agreements, training and support obligations, implementation timeline
8 expectations, data migration services, pricing models, including per-district and per-student options,
9 options for phased implementation, and terms for termination and data portability;

10 (b) Require vendors to demonstrate experience implementing ERP solutions for K–12
11 education, provide references from at least 3 comparable public education clients, and submit
12 detailed proposals for onboarding, training, long-term support, and continuous improvement; and

13 (c) Include evaluation criteria weighting functional fit, total cost of ownership, technical
14 and security compliance, vendor capacity, support and training plans, demonstrated K–12
15 experience, and transition risk mitigation.

16 II. In developing the draft RFP, the department shall convene and consult with a
17 stakeholder advisory group, including representatives of school district business administrators,
18 superintendents, school board members, technology directors, charter school operators, the
19 department of information technology, the bureau of special education, and a representative of
20 municipal finance officers. The department shall solicit written input from stakeholders and hold at
21 least 2 public comment sessions, whether virtual or in-person, on the draft RFP.

22 21-N:16 Optional Participation.

23 I. After consideration of stakeholder input, the department shall finalize and issue the
24 competitive request for proposal (RFP) no later than April 1, 2027. The RFP shall be published on
25 the department's website and the state's procurement portal, and shall allow sufficient time for
26 vendor responses consistent with procurement law.

27 II. Participation in the centralized ERP service shall be strictly voluntary for school
28 districts. No district shall be required to adopt or migrate to the centralized service under this
29 subdivision.

30 III. The department shall, subject to available appropriations:

31 (a) Develop guidance, sample contracts, and data migration templates to assist districts
32 in evaluating vendor proposals and negotiating participation agreements;

33 (b) Provide planning and technical assistance to districts, including project management
34 templates, readiness assessments, procurement negotiation support, and coordination with the state
35 department of information technology regarding security and connectivity requirements; and

36 (c) Facilitate vendor demonstrations and statewide procurement forums to support
37 district decision-making.

1 21-N:17 Data Governance, Privacy, and Ownership. The competitive request for proposal (RFP)
2 and any resulting contracts shall require that:

3 I. Student, staff, and financial data remain the property of the participating district and the
4 department as applicable;

5 II. Vendors implement and maintain industry-standard security measures, data encryption
6 at rest and in transit, multi-factor authentication, and breach notification protocols consistent with
7 state law and FERPA;

8 III. Data portability and export capabilities be guaranteed at termination or upon district
9 request without undue fees or barriers; and

10 IV. Contracts prohibit the vendor from selling or monetizing education data for commercial
11 marketing purposes.

12 21-N:18 Pilot Program Option. The department may include in the competitive request for
13 proposal (RFP) an option for an initial pilot cohort of up to 6 participating districts representing
14 diverse sizes and geographic regions to test implementation, onboarding, training, and
15 interoperability over an 18–24 month pilot period prior to statewide rollout.

16 21-N:19 Report to Legislature.

17 I. The department shall prepare and submit a report to the governor, the president of the
18 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chairs of the house and senate education
19 committees within 30 days after issuance of the final competitive request for proposal (RFP).

20 II. The report shall summarize stakeholder input, key RFP features, proposed procurement
21 timeline, available funding sources, and recommended next steps. The department shall provide a
22 supplemental report within 12 months of any contract award summarizing award decisions,
23 anticipated implementation timelines, projected costs and savings, and lessons learned from any
24 pilot.

25 21-N:20 Rulemaking. The department, in consultation with the department of information
26 technology and other relevant agencies, may adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, to implement this
27 subdivision.

28 21-N:21 Severability. If any provision of this subdivision or the application thereof to any
29 person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or
30 applications of the subdivision which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application,
31 and to this end the provisions of this subdivision are declared to be severable.

32 4 Department of Education; Appropriation. There is hereby appropriated to the department of
33 education the sum of \$250,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, for the purpose of supporting
34 competitive request for proposal (RFP) developments, stakeholder engagement, procurement costs,
35 and technical assistance to districts. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out
36 of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

37 5 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

**HB 1729-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to the creation of a centralized enterprise resource planning service, and making an appropriation therefor.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill does not authorize new positions.

Estimated State Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
Expenditures*	\$0	\$294,000	\$294,000	\$306,000
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$250,000	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			

*Expenditure = Cost of bill

*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill

Estimated Political Subdivision Impact				
	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill proposes the establishment of a centralized, vendor-hosted Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) service for New Hampshire public school districts, aiming to modernize and streamline administrative operations across finance, human resource, student information, procurement, and related systems, while preserving local control and data ownership.

The Department of Education (NHED) assumes the intent and rationale of this bill are grounded in the finding that school districts currently operate disparate and often outdated systems, which lead to inefficiencies and increased costs. By contrast, a centralized ERP platform could generate cost savings through economies of scale, improve data security and compliance (including Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)), support standardized reporting and analytics, and enhance interoperability and overall administrative capacity. Under this bill, NHED and the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) would lead a statewide

procurement process for such a platform in a way that supports local needs while leveraging centralized infrastructure.

The bill establishes a structured, phased implementation plan. By November 1, 2026, NHED would be required to develop a competitive request for proposal (RFP) that details system requirements, security standards, pricing models, and vendor qualifications, incorporating stakeholder input through an advisory group and public comment sessions. By April 1, 2027, NHED would be required to issue the final RFP and publish it on the NHED website and the state procurement portal. Participation by school districts is entirely voluntary; districts may opt in at their discretion, and no mandate is imposed. To support participation, NHED would be required to provide technical assistance, sample contracts, and vendor evaluation tools. NHED may also initiate a pilot program with up to six diverse districts to test implementation and training before a broader rollout. Under the bill, districts would retain ownership of their data, vendors would be required to meet strict data security and privacy standards, and contracts would be required to explicitly prohibit data monetization. Finally, NHED would be required to report to the legislature following RFP issuance and again after any contract awards, and would be granted rulemaking authority, in consultation with DoIT, to implement and oversee the program.

The Departments (NHED and DoIT) state two (2) full-time management level positions (SOC 11-06) would be required to implement this bill. The costs for these positions is estimated to be \$244,000 in FY 2027, \$244,000 in FY 2028, and \$256,000 in FY 2029. In addition, it is assumed \$50,000 would be needed, per year, in additional budgeted funds to support the positions and their required duties. While this bill does not establish personnel, it does include a general fund appropriation to NHED of \$250,000 in FY 2027.

Given that district participation would be voluntary and with no information on final contract rates, the cost for participation by local districts is indeterminable. Depending upon district size and level of enterprise software, NHED states estimated local costs could range anywhere between \$50,000 and \$500,000, or more.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education and Department of Information Technology