

HB 1830-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-3122

12/07

HOUSE BILL ***1830-FN***

AN ACT requiring firearm safety education in all public schools.

SPONSORS: Rep. Roy, Rock. 31; Rep. Sabourin dit Choiniere, Rock. 30

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of education to establish a mandatory firearm safety training program to be taught in all public schools.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 requiring firearm safety education in all public schools.

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

1 1 New Chapter; Firearms Training in Public Schools. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter
2 193-K the following new chapter:

3 CHAPTER 193-L

4 FIREARMS TRAINING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

5 193-L:1 Short Title. This chapter shall be known as the "New Hampshire Firearms Safety
6 Education Act."

7 193-L:2 Purpose and Intent. The purpose of this chapter is to promote public safety and
8 responsible citizenship by ensuring that all students in New Hampshire public schools receive age
9 appropriate education on firearms safety in order to foster an understanding of safe handling,
10 storage, and the legal responsibilities associated with firearms ownership and use, consistent with
11 the state's commitment to individual rights and community well-being.

12 193-L:3 Definitions. In this chapter:

13 I. "Firearms safety training" means an educational curriculum designed to teach students
14 the principles of safe firearm handling, storage, and avoidance, including but not limited to the
15 National Rifle Association's Eddie Eagle GunSafe Program or equivalent programs approved by the
16 department of education.

17 II. "Public school" means all public and chartered public schools in the state.

18 193-L:4 Mandatory Firearms Safety Training.

19 I. The department of education, in consultation with the department of safety and qualified
20 firearms instructors, shall develop or adopt standardized firearms safety training pursuant to RSA
21 193-L:5 for public school students in grades K-12 by January 1, 2027.

22 II. The department shall provide curricular material to each school district at no cost to the
23 district. The department shall actively seek federal funds, state and federal grants, and other
24 sources of funding to support the costs associated with firearms safety training. The department
25 shall develop guidelines regarding individual donations to the department from individuals, groups,
26 or organizations to support training efforts and costs.

27 193-L:5 Mandatory Firearms Safety Training; Requirements and Delivery.

28 I. Beginning with the 2027-2028 school year, firearms safety training shall be taught
29 annually in all public schools as part of the health, physical education, or civics curriculum, with a
30 minimum of one instructional hour per school year dedicated to this purpose. The training shall be

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1 mandatory for every public school student unless a student's parent or legal guardian receives an
2 exception pursuant to RSA 193-L:6 and 186:11, IX-c.

3 II. The training shall be age-appropriate for each grade level, with students in grades K-5
4 receiving instruction focused on avoidance and reporting and students in grades 6-12 receiving
5 expanded instruction to include basic firearm mechanics, safe handling principles, secure storage
6 practices, and an overview of state and federal firearms laws. Firearms safety training shall not
7 include live firearms or ammunition in the classroom but may incorporate training aids such as
8 dummy firearms or multimedia resources.

9 III. The training shall be administered by school staff or external instructors certified in
10 firearms safety education by a recognized organization or as approved by the department of
11 education.

12 193-L:6 Exception. School districts shall adopt a policy in accordance with RSA 186:11, IX-c to
13 allow an exception by a parent or legal guardian to all or part of the firearms safety training.

14 193-L:7 Compliance and Reporting.

15 I. Each school district shall submit an annual report to the department of education by the
16 final day of the school year, confirming compliance with this chapter and detailing the number of
17 students trained and excepted.

18 II. The department of education shall compile and submit a summary report detailing the
19 number of students trained and excepted to the speaker of the house of representatives and the
20 president of the senate by September 1 of each year, beginning in 2028.

21 193-L:8 Severability. If any provision of this chapter, or the application thereof to any person or
22 circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect the other provisions or applications of the
23 chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications and to this end the
24 provisions of this chapter are severable.

25 2 New Paragraph; Duties of the State Board of Education; Firearms Safety Training. Amend
26 RSA 186:11 by inserting after paragraph XXXVII the following new paragraph:

27 XXXVIII. Firearms Safety Training. Develop or adopt, and distribute to school districts, an
28 educational curriculum designed to teach students the principles of safe firearm handling, storage,
29 and avoidance, as required under RSA 193-L.

30 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

HB 1830-FN- FISCAL NOTE
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AN ACT requiring firearm safety education in all public schools.

FISCAL IMPACT: This bill does not provide funding, nor does it 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	\$451,000	\$105,000	\$109,000
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

*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 Increase		

METHODOLOGY:

This bill:

- Requires the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Safety and qualified firearms instructors, to develop or adopt standardized K–12 firearms safety training by January 1, 2027, and to provide curricular materials to school districts at no cost.
- Directs the Department of Education to seek federal and state grants and other funding sources, and to establish guidelines for accepting private donations to support firearms safety training.
- Mandates that beginning in the 2027 - 2028 school year, public schools provide at least one hour of annual, age-appropriate firearms safety instruction as part of the health, physical education, or civics curriculum, unless a parent or legal guardian opts a student out.
 - Specifies that instruction for grades K–5 focus on avoidance and reporting, and for grades 6–12 include firearm mechanics, safe handling, secure storage, and an

overview of state and federal firearms laws, without the use of live firearms or ammunition.

- Allows instruction to be delivered by school staff or certified external firearms safety instructors approved by the Department of Education.
- Requires school districts to adopt an opt-out policy for parents or legal guardians.
- Requires annual reporting by school districts to the Department of Education on compliance and participation, and a consolidated statewide report to legislative leadership beginning in 2028.

State Impact

The Department of Education states it would require one (1) new Education Consultant I (SOC 25-04, starting step 5) position to develop the standards and to complete reporting requirements, at an estimated cost of \$101,000 in FY 2027, \$105,000 in FY 2028, and \$109,000 in FY 2029. In addition, the Department states the estimated cost to purchase a curriculum that meets the standards and distribute statewide to NH school is, at minimum, \$300,000 (for example, the development of the statewide civics curriculum and distribution to schools cost the state \$1,000,000, just for the curriculum, and the Department has had to incur the additional costs to support this ongoing requirement). Lastly, the Department estimates \$50,000 will be expended in the first year to implement the data collection requirement.

Cost Description	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Staffing*	\$101,000	\$105,000	\$109,000
Curriculum	\$300,000	\$0	\$0
Data Collection	\$50,000	\$0	\$0
Total	\$451,000	\$105,000	\$109,000

* It should be noted that this bill provides neither authorization nor appropriation for new personnel.

Local Impact

The Department of Education states this bill will result in costs to local school districts to administer this bill. Costs would be related to equipment purchases, obtaining field locations for firearm safety, and instructor salaries. Any costs are indeterminable and would vary by district.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education