

HB 1571-FN-A - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

19Feb2026... 0412h

2026 SESSION

26-2852

12/06

HOUSE BILL

1571-FN-A

AN ACT requiring the department of education to review statewide academic standards and curriculum and making an appropriation therefor.

SPONSORS: Rep. Noble, Hills. 2; Rep. Thibault, Merr. 25; Rep. Peternel, Carr. 6; Rep. Freeman, Belk. 8; Rep. Korzen, Coos 7; Rep. Belcher, Carr. 4

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Administration

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of education to revise the statewide academic standards decennially beginning in June 2026 and makes an appropriation for such purpose.

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 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 the department of education to review statewide academic standards and curriculum and making an appropriation therefor.

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

1 1 New Paragraph; Educational Content of an Adequate Education; Decennial Revision
2 Required. Amend RSA 193-E:2-a by inserting after paragraph II-a the following new paragraph:

3 II-b. The statewide academic standards, as defined in RSA 193-E:2-a, VI(b), shall be reviewed
4 for possible revision every 10 years, beginning in June 2026. The department of education shall
5 initiate a revision of these standards, as well as the current science standards, to ensure alignment
6 with high-quality criteria that emphasize rigor, clarity, and relevance. The revised standards shall
7 reflect a coherent progression of knowledge, skills, and competencies across grade levels. The
8 development process shall include meaningful participation by students, parents, and educators,
9 consistent with the intent of RSA 193-C:1, III.

10 2 New Subparagraph; Educational Content of an Adequate Education; Curriculum and
11 Materials List Added. Amend RSA 193-E:2-a, V by inserting after subparagraph (b) the following
12 new subparagraphs:

13 (c) The department shall make available a list of high quality curriculum and
14 instructional materials based upon the revised standards from which school districts may select new
15 curriculum and materials.

16 (d) The state shall revise the statewide education improvement and assessment
17 program, as established in RSA 193-C, to align with the revised standards developed pursuant to
18 RSA 193-E:2-a, II-b.

19 3 Appropriation; Revision of Statewide Academic Standards. The sum of \$1 for the fiscal year
20 ending June 30, 2027, and the sum of \$1 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2028, are hereby
21 appropriated to the department of education for the purpose of funding support systems for the
22 development and implementation of revised statewide academic standards pursuant to RSA 193-E:2-
23 a, II-b. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury
24 not otherwise appropriated.

25 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

HB 1571-FN-A- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2026-0412h)

AN ACT requiring the department of education to review statewide academic standards and curriculum 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	\$1,792,000	\$1,121,000 - \$1,221,000	\$1,120,000
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	General Fund			
Appropriations*	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	None			

***Expenditure = Cost of bill**

***Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill**

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires the Department of Education to review statewide academic standards for possible revision every 10 years, including revising current science standards to ensure greater rigor, clarity, relevance, and progression of knowledge across grade levels. The bill also requires the Department to make available a list of high-quality curriculum and instructional materials aligned with the revised standards (from which districts may choose) and to update the statewide education improvement and assessment program to align with the revised standards.

To estimate the fiscal impact of this bill, the Department reviewed prior costs associated with statewide academic standards revisions, prevailing market rates for contracted content-area experts, and typical expenditures related to stakeholder engagement, publication and dissemination, assessment alignment, and high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) review and vetting. The Department also considered anticipated costs associated with hiring or filling Department staff positions necessary to support this work. Estimated costs were assigned by fiscal year based on when required activities would reasonably occur during implementation, recognizing that these activities will span the 10-year revision cycle.

The Department estimates it would need the following positions to implement this bill:

- One (1) Instructional Coordinator III – Science including Engineering and technologies, and Computer Science
- One (1) Instructional Coordinator III – Social Studies including civics, history, Holocaust, and genocide education
- One (1) Instructional Coordinator III – Arts Education & World Languages
- One (1) Instructional Coordinator III – Health, Wellness & Physical Education

Fiscal Year	Cost per Position	Total Cost
FY 2027	\$123,000	\$492,000
FY 2028	\$124,000	\$496,000
FY 2029	\$130,000	\$520,000

This bill provides neither authorization nor appropriation for positions, as the bill only appropriates \$1.00 in FY 27 and \$1.00 in FY 28.

In addition to the personnel costs above, the Department has identified the following costs relative to this bill:

FY 2027		
Cost Category	Description	Estimated Cost
Contracted subject-matter experts	Full standards revision across all content areas, including coherence, vertical alignment, disciplinary literacy, and early foundational skills	\$650,000
HQIM criteria & review framework	Develop NH-aligned HQIM rubrics, adoption processes, and cross-walks to revised standards	\$150,000
Stakeholder engagement & facilitation	Educator advisory groups, regional forums, family engagement, translation services, public hearings	\$125,000
Reviewer training & stipends	Training for 250–300 reviewers; stipends for educators on HQIM and standards review panels	\$120,000
Drafting, editing, publication preparation	Final editing, accessibility remediation, graphic/layout design, digital repository development	\$75,000
Internal coordination & project management	1.0 FTE across Governance, Assessment, & Academics for multi-content coordination	\$180,000
FY 2027 Total		\$1,300,000
FY 2028		
Cost Category	Description	Estimated Cost
Assessment alignment (RSA 193-C)	Test blueprint revisions, item development, validation, psychometrics, vendor contract modifications	\$500,000 to \$600,000
Additional stakeholder review	Final hearings, public comment integration, advisory review	\$40,000

Final publication and dissemination	Digital/print publication, distribution, and required district guidance	\$35,000
Technical assistance for districts	Transition guidance, webinars, HQIM alignment support	\$50,000
FY 2028 Total		\$625,000 to \$725,000
FY 2029		
Cost Category	Description	Estimated Cost
Instructional leadership coaching & district support	Coaching for district curriculum leaders, principals, and teacher-leaders to support transition	\$250,000
Monitoring, data collection & evaluation	Fidelity monitoring, research partner support, evaluation of implementation impact, reporting	\$150,000
Professional learning modules & PD rollout	Statewide PD series, asynchronous modules, educator-facilitator accreditation, regional support	\$200,000
FY 2029 Total		\$600,000

This bill appropriates \$1.00 in each FY 2027 and FY 2028.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education