

HB 1828-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

11Mar2026... 1109h

2026 SESSION

26-3008

12/09

HOUSE BILL

1828-FN

AN ACT requiring the department of education to establish an auditing process relative to teacher preparation programs at the post-secondary educational level.

SPONSORS: Rep. Noble, Hills. 2; Rep. Layon, Rock. 13; Rep. Peternel, Carr. 6; Rep. Freeman, Belk. 8; Rep. Korzen, Coos 7; Rep. Litchfield, Rock. 32; Rep. Colcombe, Hills. 30; Sen. Ward, Dist 8

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of education to review professional educator preparation programs to ensure effective literacy instruction is provided in institutions of higher education. The bill also authorizes the department to make rules relative to the auditing process of preparation programs.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 establish an auditing process relative to teacher preparation programs at the post-secondary educational level.

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

1 1 New Section; Preparation Program Literacy Audit. Amend RSA 189 by inserting after section
2 58 the following new section:

3 189:58-a Preparation Program Literacy Audit.

4 I. The department of education shall review New Hampshire approved professional
5 preparation programs to:

6 (a) Ensure that all applicable educators complete coursework in evidence-based
7 strategies for effective literacy instruction aligned to the science of reading, which includes phonics,
8 phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary teacher development, and is part of a
9 structured literacy program; and

10 (b) Ensure that clinical preparation for all educators who are responsible for teaching
11 reading only occurs in the classrooms where the local education agency has verified that the
12 practicing teachers have training in literacy instruction strategies aligned to the science of reading,
13 use instructional materials aligned to the science of reading, and actively implement a structured
14 literacy approach.

15 II. The department of education shall develop an auditing process with metrics that
16 document the degree to which every educator preparation program at an institution of higher
17 education is effectively teaching the science of reading and publish the audit results on the
18 department's web site.

19 III. The department of education shall adopt rules under RSA 541-A relative to the auditing
20 process.

21 2 New Subparagraph; Literacy Audit Rulemaking. Amend RSA 21-N:9, II by inserting after
22 subparagraph (cc) the following new subparagraph:

23 (dd) The auditing process for literacy instruction in professional preparation programs,
24 as defined in RSA 189:58-a.

25 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

HB 1828-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2026-1109h)

AN ACT requiring the department of education to establish an auditing process relative to teacher preparation programs at the post-secondary educational level.

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	\$130,000	\$130,000	\$136,000
<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

METHODOLOGY:

This bill requires the Department of Education to review and audit approved educator preparation programs to assess the extent to which they provide coursework and clinical training aligned with evidence-based literacy instruction, commonly referred to as the “science of reading.” The requirements apply to all State Board of Education-approved programs that prepare educators responsible for teaching reading or foundational literacy skills. The bill also requires that clinical training for such educators take place only in classrooms where the local education agency has verified that the cooperating teacher has received training in science-of-reading-aligned instruction, uses instructional materials consistent with this approach, and actively implements a structured literacy model.

The Department states under this bill it would be required to:

- Develop an auditing process with defined metrics to evaluate the degree to which educator preparation programs at institutions of higher education are effectively teaching literacy instruction aligned with the science of reading.
- Evaluate educator preparation programs using the established auditing process to determine alignment with the statutory literacy instruction requirements.
- Publish the results of the audits on the Department’s website.

- Adopt administrative rules under RSA 541-A establishing the auditing process and related procedures.

The Department states historically it has reviewed educator preparation programs primarily through program approval/renewal processes. Under this bill, the Department's role would expand beyond program approval to include the development and administration of a literacy-focused auditing process to evaluate educator preparation programs for alignment with the science of reading requirements. To implement this bill, the Department anticipates the need to add one (1) full-time position (Instructional Coordinator III, SOC 25-07, starting step 7), beginning July 1, 2026 (FY 2027), to support the development and administration of the educator preparation program literacy auditing process required by this bill. The estimated total cost for the position is \$130,000 in FY 2027, \$130,000 in FY 2028, and \$136,000 in FY 2029. It should be noted that this bill provides neither authorization nor appropriation for new personnel.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education