

# Senate Education Committee

*Ryan Meleedy 271-4151*

**SB 98-FN**, extending the donations to regional career and technical education center programs.

**Hearing Date:** January 28, 2025

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Ward, Sullivan, Abbas, Prentiss and Altschiller

**Members of the Committee Absent :** None

**Bill Analysis:** This bill extends the authority of school districts to accept charitable donations to offset costs of career and technical education center programs.

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**Sponsors:**

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| Sen. Watters   | Sen. Avard       | Sen. Lang          |
| Sen. Murphy    | Sen. Ward        | Sen. Sullivan      |
| Sen. Long      | Sen. Altschiller | Sen. Pearl         |
| Sen. Rosenwald | Sen. Birdsell    | Sen. Fenton        |
| Sen. Gannon    | Sen. Carson      | Sen. Perkins Kwoka |
| Rep. Cordelli  | Rep. S. Smith    | Rep. Ladd          |
| Rep. Almy      |                  |                    |

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**Who supports the bill:** Sen. David Watters, Sen. Cindy Rosenwald, Sen. Donovan Fenton, Sen. William Gannon, Sen. Debra Altschiller, Sen. Howard Pearl, Jerry Frew (NHSAA), Dan Bennett (NH Auto Dealers), Daniel Richardson, Sarah McCarthy, Amy Erickson, Linda Burnap, Karen Dewey, Kate Coon, Ruth O’Neal, Katie DeAngelis, Kay Campbell, Lois Cote, Krysten Evans, and Claudia Istel.

**Who opposes the bill:** No one signed in opposition to this bill.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** No one signed in neutrality to this bill.

**Summary of testimony presented in support:**

**Senator David Watters**

- Senator Watters testified in support of Senate Bill 98 as the bill’s prime sponsor.
- Senator Watters explained that the bill is designed to build upon past legislation. The bill contains certain technical clean-ups, such as changing the repeal date from 2019 to 2021.

- Senator Watters explained that the intent of the bill is to add a 50% tax credit for donations provided to career and technical education (CTE) programs. He elaborated, saying that the tax credit would serve as an incentive to increase donations, in turn bolstering CTE programs throughout the state.
- Senator Watters explained that a potential outcome of the bill could be stronger partnerships between potential employers and the programs to which they donate. He explained that this could help create jobs requiring technical education and benefit employers by potentially having larger pools of potential hires. In addition, stronger partnerships could lead to those making donations to provide expertise and more advanced training to the students in the CTE program that a given entity donates to.
- Senator Watters established that paid internships and apprenticeships provided to students of CTE programs would be eligible for the 50% tax credit, which would incentivize employers to provide CTE program students with more real-work experience.
- Senator Watters stated that the bill also expands the preexisting donation program to include real property, which would allow for the direct donation of equipment and other forms of relevant property. This could create a larger stream of donations and enable donors to provide assets that will directly benefit CTE students' training in ways that they see fit, as opposed to purely monetary donations that could theoretically be used in ways that the donors don't see as advantageous to the same degree.
- Senator Watters spoke about the program's success over the years and said that building on it with this legislation would allow for even more success for CTE programs.