CHAPTER 334
HB 1624-FN-A - FINAL VERSION

31Mar2022... 1166h
04/21/2022 1558s

2022 SESSION

22-2753
10/08

HOUSE BILL ***1624-FN-A***

AN ACT relative to students with disabilities participating in co-curricular activities and making an appropriation therefor.

SPONSORS: Rep. Lang, Belk. 4; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 9; Rep. Pearl, Merr. 26; Rep. A. Lekas, Hills. 37; Rep. Read, Rock. 17; Rep. Mullen, Hills. 7; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill requires the department of education to review the consolidated state plan to ensure that school districts establish unified co-curricular activities and makes an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to students with disabilities participating in co-curricular activities and making an appropriation therefor.

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

334:1 New Paragraph; Department of Education; Duties of Commissioner. Amend RSA 21-N:4 by inserting after paragraph X the following new paragraph:

XI.(a) Reviewing, at least every 2 years, and updating as necessary, the consolidated state plan to ensure that sufficient funds are used to encourage and establish unified co-curricular activities in schools that currently have no unified program. For each biennium, the department may expend up to $50,000 for distribution to school districts for the primary purpose of funding first-year operational expenses of equipment and/or uniforms only for unified co-curricular activities. The amount of any grant shall be no more than $4,000 per program. Any funds remaining shall be distributed to school districts with existing unified co-curricular programs to fund grants to replace existing equipment and/or uniforms for existing unified co-curricular programs.

(b) The department shall include in its efficiency expenditure request under RSA 9:4 sufficient funds for the continued operation of its duties under this paragraph.

(c) Beginning in fiscal year 2027 and every 5 years thereafter, the department shall conduct an efficiency review of the programs and expenditures under this paragraph and shall make recommendations to the legislature as needed.

(d) The commissioner may adopt rules under RSA 541-A for the administration and oversight of unified co-curricular activities in schools.

334:2 Appropriation; Department of Education; Unified Co-Curricular Program Support. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the sum of $50,000 is appropriated to the department of education for distribution to school districts for the primary purpose of funding the first-year operational expenses of equipment and/or uniforms only for unified co-curricular activities in accordance with RSA 21-N:4, XI. Any funds remaining shall be distributed to school districts with existing unified co-curricular programs to fund grants to replace existing equipment and/or uniforms for existing unified co-curricular programs, and shall not lapse. The governor is authorized to draw a warrant for said sums out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

334:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect September 1, 2022.

Approved: July 25, 2022
Effective Date: September 01, 2022