

Amendment to HB 356-FN

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 AN ACT establishing a committee to study education funding and the cost of an opportunity
4 for an adequate education, establishing a committee to study the organizational
5 structure of the department of education and the duties and responsibilities of the
6 commissioner of the department of education, and relative to the duties of the
7 commissioner of the department of education.
8

9 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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11 1 Committee Established.

12 I. There is established a committee to study education funding and the cost of an
13 opportunity for an adequate education. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

14 (a) Seven members of the house of representatives, 2 of whom shall be from the house
15 finance committee, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

16 (b) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

17 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
18 the duties of the committee.

19 III. The committee shall:

20 (a) Evaluate the successes and shortcomings of the funding formula for kindergarten to
21 grade 12 and propose changes to improve the funding formula.

22 (b) Review and recommend modification to the education funding formula and the cost
23 for an opportunity for an adequate education.

24 (c) Identify the causes of increased per pupil education costs and develop proposals to
25 help local school districts contain increasing costs.

26 (d) Identify trends and disparities across the state in student performance in
27 kindergarten to grade 12 and develop policy and funding formula recommendations for
28 improvement.

29 (e) Consider other policy issues as the committee may deem necessary.

30 IV. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the
31 members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house member. The
32 first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section. Six
33 members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

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1 V. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
2 legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house
3 clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

4 2 Committee Established.

5 I. There is established a committee to study the organizational structure of the department
6 of education and the duties and responsibilities of the commissioner of the department of education.
7 The members of the committee shall be as follows:

8 (a) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

9 (b) Four members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house
10 of representatives.

11 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
12 the duties of the committee.

13 III. The committee shall study the organizational structure of the department of education
14 and the duties and responsibilities of the commissioner of the department of education.

15 IV. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from among the
16 members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate member.
17 The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this section.
18 Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

19 V. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
20 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
21 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2017.

22 3 New Paragraph; Department of Education; Duties of the Commissioner. Amend RSA 21-N:4
23 by inserting after paragraph XII the following new paragraph:

24 XIII. With the advice of the state board of education, and in consultation with the deputy
25 commissioner and the directors of the affected divisions, have the authority to transfer or assign
26 functions, programs, or services within or between any division.

27 4 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study education funding and the cost of an opportunity for an adequate education and establishes a committee to study the organizational structure of the department of education and the duties and responsibilities of the commissioner of the department of education. The bill also authorizes the commissioner of the department of education, with the advice of the state board of education and after consultation with the deputy director and affected division directors, to transfer or assign functions, programs, or services within or between any division.