

SB 584-FN - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2261

07/05

SENATE BILL        **584-FN**

AN ACT            increasing the amount of funding provided for students receiving special education services.

SPONSORS:        Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5; Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Rosenwald, Dist 13; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24

COMMITTEE:      Education Finance

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ANALYSIS

This bill increases the amount of funding provided for students receiving special education services.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT                    increasing the amount of funding provided for students receiving special education services.

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

1            1    Education; Adequate Education; Education Trust Fund; Cost of an Opportunity for an  
2 Adequate Education. Amend RSA 198:40-a to read as follows:

3            198:40-a    Cost of an Opportunity for an Adequate Education.

4            I.    For the biennium beginning July 1, [~~2023~~] **2026**, the annual cost of providing the  
5 opportunity for an adequate education as defined in RSA 193-E:2-a shall be as specified in  
6 paragraph II. The department shall adjust the rates specified in this paragraph in accordance with  
7 RSA 198:40-d.

8            II.(a) A cost of \$4,100 per pupil in the ADMR, plus differentiated aid as follows:

9                    (b) An additional \$2,300 for each pupil in the ADMR who is eligible for a free or reduced  
10 price meal anytime during the determination year; plus

11                    (c) An additional \$800 for each pupil in the ADMR who is an English language learner  
12 anytime during the determination year; plus

13                    (d) An additional [~~\$2,100~~] **\$16,000** for each pupil in the ADMR who is receiving special  
14 education services anytime during the determination year.

15            III. The sum total calculated under paragraph II shall be the cost of an adequate education.  
16 The department shall determine the cost of an adequate education for each municipality based on  
17 the ADMR of pupils who reside in that municipality.

18            2    Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

**SB 584-FN- FISCAL NOTE**  
 AS INTRODUCED

AN ACT increasing the amount of funding provided for students receiving special education services.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

<b>Estimated State Impact</b>				
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Revenue Fund(s)</i>	None			
<b>Expenditures*</b>	\$0	Approximately \$450M Per Year		
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	Education Trust Fund			
<b>Appropriations*</b>	\$0	Statutory Open Warrant Exists for Adequacy Payments		
<i>Funding Source(s)</i>	Education Trust Fund			

**\*Expenditure = Cost of bill                      \*Appropriation = Authorized funding to cover cost of bill**

<b>Estimated Political Subdivision Impact</b>				
	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>
<b>Local Revenue</b>	\$0	Approximately \$420M Per Year		
<b>Local Expenditures</b>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

**METHODOLOGY:**

This bill will increase the special education differentiated aid rate in FY 2027 from \$2,229 to \$16,000. This will increase education trust fund spending for the following programs in FY 2027:

- District Adequacy - \$420 million.
- Charter School Funding - \$15 million.
- Education Freedom Accounts - \$15 million.

Impact beyond FY 2028 is indeterminable. However, a similar fiscal impact is expected. It should be noted that the estimated cost of this bill significantly exceeds available funding in the education trust fund, as well as the general fund and revenue stabilization account (rainy day fund).

**AGENCIES CONTACTED:**

Department of Education