

HB 1467-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

19Feb2026... 0522h

2026 SESSION

26-3070

12/09

HOUSE BILL **1467-FN**

AN ACT relative to the New Hampshire seal of civic excellence and engagement program.

SPONSORS: Rep. D. Paige, Carr. 1; Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4; Rep. Cornell, Hills. 22; Sen. Carson, Dist 14

COMMITTEE: Education Policy and Administration

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill:

I. Establishes the required criteria for a high school student to be awarded the New Hampshire seal of civic excellence and engagement.

II. Authorizes school boards and school administrative unit boards to award qualifying graduating high school students the distinction of a seal affixed to their diploma and completion of the program referenced on their transcript.

III. Authorizes the state board of education to adopt rules relative to the program.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 relative to the New Hampshire seal of civic excellence and engagement program.

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

1 1 New Section; Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement Program. Amend RSA 189 by
2 inserting after section 11-d the following new section:

3 189:11-e Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement Program.

4 I. A school board or school administrative unit board may affix the New Hampshire state
5 seal of civic excellence and engagement on a diploma awarded to a student graduating from high
6 school, as defined in RSA 194:23. The seal shall signify a student who has achieved a high level of
7 proficiency in civics education and engagement by satisfying the established criteria. The criteria
8 shall include, but is not limited to:

9 (a) Successful completion of civics education beyond the minimum requirements
10 prescribed by law or adopted locally;

11 (b) Demonstrated proficiency in civics knowledge, including comparative forms of
12 governance, through a standardized assessment, portfolio of work, or other mastery based
13 assessment as approved by the school board or school administrative unit board; and

14 (c)(1) Participation in at least one extracurricular activity or project evidencing
15 citizenship and constitutional republican government knowledge attainment as approved by the
16 school board or school administrative unit board; or

17 (2) Participation in student government activities.

18 II. The state board of education shall adopt rules, pursuant to RSA 541-A, relative to the
19 seal of civic excellence and engagement program in order to assist school boards and school
20 administrative unit boards in the consistent application of this section in recognizing high student
21 proficiency. Such rules shall further articulate the qualification criteria to promote rigor and
22 consistency in application statewide, including comparable expectations for civic engagement
23 activities across districts and clear definition of the civic knowledge and skills to be measured, while
24 allowing multiple locally determined pathways for assessment.

25 2 New Section; Diplomas; Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement. Amend RSA 194 by
26 inserting after section 23-f the following new section:

27 194:23-g Diplomas; Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement. Commencing with the classes
28 graduating high school in 2027 and for each graduating class thereafter, a school board or school
29 administrative unit board may affix the New Hampshire state seal of civic excellence and
30 engagement, pursuant to RSA 189:11-e, to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high
31 level of proficiency in civics education and engagement. The school board or school administrative

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- 1 unit board shall include on such student's transcript a designation that the student received the New
- 2 Hampshire state seal of civic excellence and engagement.
- 3 3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect on July 4, 2026.

LBA
26-3070
03/03/2026

HB 1467-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE (AMENDMENT #2026-0522h)

AN ACT relative to the New Hampshire seal of civic excellence and engagement program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Legislative Budget Assistant has determined that this legislation has a total fiscal impact of less than \$10,000 in each of the fiscal years 2026 through 2029.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education