

CHAPTER 36
HB 1467-FN - FINAL VERSION

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 struck through.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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-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 36:1 New Section; Seal of Civic Excellence and Engagement Program. Amend RSA 189 by inserting
2 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 seal of
5 civic excellence and engagement on a diploma awarded to a student graduating from high school, as
6 defined in RSA 194:23. The seal shall signify a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in
7 civics education and engagement by satisfying the established criteria. The criteria shall include, but is
8 not limited to:

9 (a) Successful completion of civics education beyond the minimum requirements prescribed
10 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 assessment
13 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 citizenship and
15 constitutional republican government knowledge attainment as approved by the school board or school
16 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 seal of
19 civic excellence and engagement program in order to assist school boards and school administrative unit
20 boards in the consistent application of this section in recognizing high student proficiency. Such rules
21 shall further articulate the qualification criteria to promote rigor and consistency in application statewide,
22 including comparable expectations for civic engagement activities across districts and clear definition of
23 the civic knowledge and skills to be measured, while allowing multiple locally determined pathways for
24 assessment.

25 36:2 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 engagement,
30 pursuant to RSA 189:11-e, to a diploma awarded to a student who has achieved a high level of proficiency
31 in civics education and engagement. The school board or school administrative unit board shall include

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- 1 on such student's transcript a designation that the student received the New Hampshire state seal of civic
- 2 excellence and engagement.
- 3 36:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect on July 4, 2026.

Approved: April 22, 2026
Effective Date: July 04, 2026

