



State of
New Hampshire

HOUSE RECORD

Second Year of the 169th General Court Calendar and Journal of the 2026 Session

Web Site Address: www.gc.nh.gov

Vol. 48

Concord, NH

Friday, March 6, 2026

No. 10A

Contains: Amendments; Corrected Committee Report.

ADDENDUM TO HOUSE CALENDAR NO. 10 REGULAR CALENDAR-PART ONE

EDUCATION FUNDING

HB 1561-FN, prohibiting nationals of the People's Republic of China from attending state institutions of higher education. **MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Peter Mehegan for the **Majority** of Education Funding. As presented to the committee, this bill would have prohibited any national of the People's Republic of China who is not a U.S. citizen from attending "any public or private college or university in New Hampshire that is accredited by the state." The bill defined attendance broadly to mean "the in-person or virtual enrollment as a student, participation in research, employment, or access to campus facilities beyond public events." The majority recognizes that China's National Intelligence Law, passed 2017 and reaffirmed in 2018, places all nationals of the People's Republic of China in a compromising position, whereby they are required to report to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) any activity, at home or abroad, that the CCP might consider important to its national security. The majority was, nevertheless, concerned that the bill, as proposed, was too sweeping and therefore fashioned an amendment to narrow its scope to "a student in a master's or doctorate degree program, participation in research, or full-time employment at a public institution of higher education." Thus, it would no longer apply to undergraduate students or to any students of a private institution. The amendment made other changes, such as deleting a statement of findings and purpose, eliminating a notarized attestation requirement, and greatly moderating proposed fines. As amended to cover graduate students, researchers, and employees, the bill would limit access to sensitive research currently being conducted in the state's public colleges and universities. **Vote 9-8.** Rep. Hope Damon for the **Minority** of Education Funding. The proposed legislation would prohibit nationals of the People's Republic of China from enrollment, employment, research participation, and access to campus facilities at any NH state institution of higher education. The minority believes a blanket prohibition of students from a single nation is unwarranted and almost certainly violates state and federal antidiscrimination laws. While the amendment removes the statement of purpose in the original bill, it is clear that language suggested Chinese people "pose a hostile risk to...the lives and livelihoods of Granite Staters;" thus, their removal is necessary to protect national security. The minority believes the bill is in conflict with American and New Hampshire values. Further, it requires the University System to give up revenue from students who pay full tuition, to lose valuable faculty and staff, while expending resources tracking documentation – resources needed for essential functions when our reduced state funding of higher education is already extremely challenging. The sponsor could not identify any states with similar statutes. This is another attempt to single out an ethnic population and put them at grave risk. Who will be targeted next?