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HOUSE RECORD

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Contains: Amendments; Corrected Committee Reports

ADDENDUM TO HOUSE CALENDAR NO.16

THURSDAY, MARCH 20
REGULAR CALENDAR

EDUCATION POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION

HB 676, relative to the composition and responsibilities of the parent and education service provider advisory commission, and establishing education freedom account impact and parent satisfaction surveys.

MAJORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT. MINORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Rep. Glenn Cordelli for the **Majority** of Education Policy and Administration. This amended bill modifies the current Education Freedom Account (EFA) Service Provider Advisory Commission to clarify membership, ensure that they meet quarterly, and file an annual report. Most importantly, this bill adds two surveys that are currently mandated for the Education Tax Credit Scholarship and will provide useful information for the EFA program. The first is a parent satisfaction survey – are they satisfied with the program and is their child making academic progress? The second survey asks if the EFA parent of a child attending a private school has to pay out of pocket for tuition not covered by the EFA. These surveys should provide useful information for the program. **Vote 10-8.** Rep. Muriel Hall for the **Minority** of Education Policy and Administration. This bill does nothing to improve the current statute. Rather, this legislation increases the size of the voting membership of the commission, which already consists of only Education Freedom Account (EFA) parents. Furthermore, an added responsibility of the Parent and Education Service Provider Advisory Commission establishes EFA impact and parent satisfaction surveys for which specific leading questions are included in the legislation. These surveys would be administered to only a small percentage of our EFA population, given that it only pertains to those families with children who exited our public schools for EFAs, and not vice versa. The purported intent of these surveys is seemingly to tout the satisfaction of EFA parents and to suggest the need for improvement in our public schools. As such, the data collected will likely have minimal impact, since it is generally considered poor practice to conduct a survey when the results are already known prior to its distribution.

ELECTION LAW

HB 389-FN, requiring candidates to attest they have not spent more than \$1,000 in an election.

MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT.

Rep. James Qualey for the **Majority** of Election Law. It is the view of the majority of the Election Law Committee that the change proposed by this bill is unnecessary because it is redundant. Under the current statute (RSA 664:7) candidates who do not file a campaign finance report are already attesting, by an act of omission, that they are not required to do so because they have not expended over \$1000.00. This bill would

require even those candidates to register with the online campaign finance system and file reports thus imposing an unnecessary administrative burden upon them with no increased benefit to the public. **Vote 10-7.** Rep. Russell Muirhead for the **Minority** of Election Law. This bill would require candidates for State Representative who do not receive or spend more than \$1000 during an election cycle to mark a check box attesting to this fact. The simple check box would be inserted in the candidate reporting form supplied by the Secretary of State's Office and would be on the state's online campaign finance system. At present, candidates who do not spend or receive more than \$1000 do not need to file at all, which leaves many voters wondering whether candidates are neglecting to file reports when they should. The simple check box would eliminate suspicions and doubts about whether candidates are complying with campaign finance reporting requirements and would make campaign funding in New Hampshire more transparent to voters.

AMENDMENTS

(LISTED IN NUMERICAL ORDER)

Amendment to HB 676 **(2025-0601h)**

Proposed by the Majority of the Committee on Education Policy and Administration-r

Amend RSA 194-F:14, I(a) as inserted by section 3 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

(a) I am satisfied with the education option(s) my child is utilizing as compared to the option(s) my child utilized prior to the availability of the education freedom account program.