

Stacey Remillard
45 Addison Place
Dover, NH 03820

NH House Education Funding Committee
1 Granite Place, Room 232
Concord, NH 03301

Re: NH HB 1803

Dear Sirs/Madame,

I am sending this urgent letter to inform you about my family as it relates to NH House Bill 1803. Hearing Date January 15, 2026 at 2pm.

My two children are class of '27 and class of '29 at the best High School in the Seacoast, Saint Thomas Aquinas High School, Dover, NH.

They have attended private school for several years now. They are both recipients of the ETC (Education Tax Credit Scholarship) and the EFA (Education Freedom Account). We rely on BOTH of these NH Funding sources to help lift them up and out of poverty, to provide them with an education that best fits their lifestyle and learning styles. They are amazing people in part because of receiving BOTH of these scholarships every year. My children left NH Public Schools for various reasons. Both enrolled in Saint Elizabeth Seton in Rochester, NH with NH ETC. They then both transferred to Saint Mary Academy in Dover, when SES closed. And now at STA! Go Saints! I am a single Mom, and without the daily presence of a father in the home, the private schools they have attended have shaped their precious lives into such beautiful teenagers! NH ETC and EFA have helped to propel their education and their lives! They are long term recipients of these funding sources. We have been a NH Children's Scholarship Family since our first application in 2018!

For those of you on the committee that may not understand how the two funding sources work together, from a recipient family perspective, I want you to know how this works for us.

The ETC goes directly to the school, it helps pay tuition and school fees. It is never in the hands of parents, it is meant to make private/non-public school more affordable and the businesses that donate to this source expect it to help kids like mine THRIVE, it is a gift of hope not to be taken for granted.

The EFA account! Well we have been an EFA family from the first year! This account is amazing, this makes it all make sense. We have watched it grow on Class Wallet from just a small handful of vendors, to now many. Now in so many other States across the USA! Most of this EFA funding goes to the school to help pay our tuition and school fees. The rest of the EFA funds goes to whatever else my students need for school. Printer paper, books, pens, pencils, uniforms, special advanced calculator, even a laptop. Which is worth mentioning. The cost of a first basic laptop for school was reachable a cheap used model or in elementary school a chromebook. Now a more advanced laptop, not a chromebook, that requires a

couple of extra years to save up for a new one. EFA funds roll over and we are saving up for a new laptop for High School. We have old used ones now and are allowed to purchase one every three years. We are saving up and being frugal with our EFA so we can get good laptops for the rest of High School! If you block our use and there is no roll over? What then? How will a family purchase things? Especially needed things like this? Without this EFA fund I don't know how we would purchase some of these needed things? We qualify as recipients of both these funds for a reason. This may not be the same for other families I do not know. We do volunteer at our school, we give back to our school, Church and State community however we can. I volunteer an hour or so every month at Cross Roads House in Portsmouth. We buy used school uniforms at our school uniform sale and volunteer to help run the sale. We are frugal with our EFA funds! However, there are some things that we absolutely use our EFA funds for! NEW Uniform Pants that fit and meet dress code. Kids grow quickly! Speciality reading books for example my daughter just ordered online a book about Louis Zamperini, titled 'Unbroken'. He was an Olympic Hero, then a war prisoner. She is an Olympic Hopeful and plans to go Pro Women's Soccer! If we are only allowed to use ETC, then we will not have funds to purchase uniforms. If we only get EFA, then what will be left for us to purchase supplies? They are two separate things to be used in their appropriate manner.

Our Private Schools, all three of them, over the past 7 years have been very generous with financial aid of their own in addition to the ETC and some EFA to make private school education a reality for my children. Without this help from all three sources annually, a private education of our choice would not be possible.

My daughter earned her First Varsity Letter playing soccer this year in her FRESHMAN year! Her soccer team was an NHIAA Semi-Finalist! Both my children get A's and B's with a few rare exceptions/bumps in the road. They are learning a hard work ethic that will carry them through. I have shared this journey of NH Children's Scholarship Fund, the EFA and ETC with them for years. They understand what a privilege it is to have this funding and attend an excellent school to shape their lives and give them the knowledge they need to be the future adults our State and Country need.. They KNOW how hard the world can be. This is an excellent and life changing opportunity for them. With all due respect I can not imagine why this would now be taken away? Thank you for believing in my children and keeping their funding sources secure. They are potentially the NH Committee Members of the future shaping the lives of the next generation of students with secured funding for the education of their choice. Strong like Granite.

Please consider the continued funding for both the EFA and ETC accounts together yearly without separating them . As a long term family, recipient of the EFA and ETC account clients of The NH Children's Scholarship Fund. I welcome your questions and feedback and I request your careful consideration on this matter. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Stacey A. Remillard