

Testimony Against HB 1788-FN:

“AN ACT holding state contracts with DEI provisions to be void as a matter of law and establishing a right of action for taxpayers where public entities or state agencies engage with contracts with DEI provisions.”

Rep. Timothy Horrigan (Strafford 10); January 15, 2025
House Executive Departments & Administration Committee

HB 1788-FN is an attack on my four biggest legislative priorities throughout my 18 years in the New Hampshire House.

1. Fairness and equal rights for all people, even those (especially those!) who are quote-unquote “different” in some way. Some people may think “DEI” is a bad thing, but “**Diversity**” means including those who are different. “**Equity**” means being fair to everyone. “**Inclusion**” means quite simply, the act of including everyone. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are all good things.

2. The rule of law. Unilaterally voiding contracts is an attack on the rule of law, especially when there is no due process and no compensation. The same goes for the provisions in this bill about allowing random “taxpayers” to sue school districts and the department of education for imaginary grievances.

3. Freedom of expression. This bill cripples our public libraries.

4. Disability rights. This bill cripples those organizations and agencies which serve the most vulnerable amongst us.

Once again, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion are all good things. All three of them. And they are all core American and Granite Stater values.