

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Institute for Legislative Action

11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD

FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



NRA

January 14, 2026

The Honorable Kristin Noble
Chair, House Education Policy and Administration Committee
New Hampshire General Court
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301
Room 232

Re: House Bill 1122 (Spillane)

Dear Chair Noble:

House Bill 1122 would require public schools in New Hampshire to make courses available to all students over the age of 16 for hunter education and the safe and responsible use of firearms and, for parents who object on religious or conscientious grounds, education in forestry management.

The NRA is best known for its advocacy and protection of the Second Amendment and the Right to Keep and Bear Arms, but it also has a rich history in hunting. Since 1871, a major objective of the National Rifle Association has been to provide education and training in the safe and proper use of firearms. The NRA has certified over 125,000 instructors, and over one million people are trained by NRA-certified trainers every year. The NRA and its instructors offer marksmanship, safe firearm handling and storage, range etiquette, and a wide range of firearm-related courses. These skills are important not only for shooting but also for hunting. In 1949, the NRA created the first hunter education course and developed hunter safety training as it is known today.

Hunters contribute millions of dollars every year to wildlife management and conservation projects through the excise taxes they pay on firearms and ammunition, as well as the sale of licenses and other state fees required to hunt. Indeed, all shooters and firearm owners make a significant contribution to wildlife conservation in America through the federal Pittman-Robertson Act. Arguably, most purchasers of firearms and ammunition are not hunters, yet the excise tax they pay goes toward wildlife conservation in America. So not only should we be grateful to hunters who pay these taxes, but we also need to be grateful to American shooters. For example, in 2025, New Hampshire received approximately \$5.4 million of these funds, including \$1.6 million for hunter education.

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Those conservation and wildlife management efforts benefit all residents of the State of New Hampshire, not just hunters. Providing access to educational programs on safe and responsible hunting in New Hampshire schools helps preserve these American traditions, encourages stewardship of the state's land and natural resources, and promotes the safe and responsible use of firearms, principles that the NRA fully supports.

For these reasons, the NRA, on behalf of our members and the thousands of hunters across the Granite State, urges the Committee to support HB 1122.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph LoPorto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joseph LoPorto
State Director
State & Local Affairs

cc: Committee Members