

January 22, 2026

Chair Gregory Hill
Legislative Administration Committee
1 Granite Place, Room 234
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Support for HB 1692 – Legislative Youth Advisory Council

Chair Hill and Members of the Legislative Administration Committee,

My name is Iris LaMoreaux, and I am a 17-year-old high school student from Plymouth, New Hampshire. I am a Fifth Former (junior) at St. Paul’s School in Concord. **I am writing to submit my testimony in support of HB 1692, relative to the Legislative Youth Advisory Council (LYAC).**

The purpose of the New Hampshire Legislative Youth Advisory Council is to ensure that the perspectives of young people who are directly affected by many long-term policy decisions are meaningfully represented in the legislative process. Youth bring firsthand experience with today’s education system, emerging technologies, workforce challenges, housing access, mental health, and environmental concerns. Including these perspectives leads to more informed, forward-looking policymaking.

What HB 1692 Does

HB 1692 strengthens the Legislative Youth Advisory Council by updating its structure and improving how it operates. The bill expands and clarifies youth membership, establishes a formal and transparent application process, and creates a clear and reliable appointment timeline. It also updates the council’s duties, improves administrative support, increases public access to information about LYAC, and protects students’ private information. These changes ensure that the council can function consistently, effectively, and as intended.

Why HB 1692 Matters

This legislative session, the council has not been able to assemble because appointments have not been finalized. I applied to serve on LYAC as a representative for Grafton County and am still awaiting notification, as are all applicants. Regardless of whether I am selected to serve on the council, it is important that LYAC is able to function as intended.

When youth perspectives are missing from legislative discussions, policies risk overlooking the real experiences and long-term impacts on younger generations. HB 1692 ensures that students from across New Hampshire can bring informed, diverse, and geographically representative youth voices to the legislature as bills are being shaped.

Why I Support HB 1692

I support HB 1692 because a strong and functional LYAC benefits both the legislature and New Hampshire’s future. The council gives young people the opportunity to learn how government works, receive training in civic leadership, engage directly with legislators, and develop the skills and inspiration needed to pursue public service. These experiences help cultivate informed, engaged citizens and prepare New Hampshire’s future legislative and civic leaders. Promoting opportunities for youth engagement and representation in government processes has great value both for civic minded youth as well as for the state itself. Few opportunities as

meaningful and impactful as the LYAC exist within New Hampshire for students like me interested in civics, policy, and public service.

HB 1692 ensures that the voices of New Hampshire's youth are not only heard but thoughtfully integrated into the policymaking process, while also investing in the next generation of leaders who may one day serve this state.

Thank you, Chair Hill and members of the committee, for your time and consideration. Please vote Ought to Pass on HB 1692.

Sincerely,

Iris LaMoreaux
Age 17
Plymouth, New Hampshire
Grafton County
Fifth Form (Junior), St. Paul's School
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cc: Representative James Spillane, Prime Sponsor