

**Statement of Opposition for HB 1268  
February 20th, 2026**

Dear New Hampshire Education Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for Responsible Home Education, a homeschool alumni founded and powered organization. We work across research, direct programming and advocacy to support safe, responsible homeschooling. Informed especially by our lived experience as homeschool alumni, **we firmly oppose HB 1268.**

HB 1268 removes New Hampshire's already minimal standards for homeschooled children, and leaves vulnerable constituents at risk. New Hampshire's registration, records and assessments requirements are basic accountability measures that ensure homeschooled children are seen, and have access to an open future. HB 1268 will make parental accountability optional - leaving behind children who need it the most. These children will not come to the capitol, and their parents will not testify before you.

Felicity is a part of CRHE, and was homeschooled in New Hampshire. She says -

*I oppose this bill because all education requires assessment to continue - there is no reason why anyone should be an exception.*

Educational assessments are pivotal for children's progression. Our alumni community overwhelmingly tells us that assessments would have better prepared them for the future, and knowing where they measured up against their peers would have made them more confident to pursue education after homeschool graduation. We oppose HB 1268 because every child deserves this - it cannot be optional, because no child is optional.

We have seen HB 1268 called the *Home Education Freedom Act*, celebrating New Hampshire's potential to be the "most free state to homeschool in". The "most free state" does not mean "the best state" for vulnerable children, who will no longer be seen through registration, provided no assessments, and have no record of their learning to move on to an open future. **Please oppose HB 1268.**



Tess Ulrey

Executive Director, Coalition for Responsible Home Education

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## **WHY HOMESCHOOL ALUMNI OPPOSE HB 1268**

It leaves vulnerable children in increased danger of neglect, abuse, and will have profoundly negative impacts on their future job prospects, earning potential, and mental and physical health. - Anna G.\*

I oppose HB 1268 because it removes basic safeguards that help to ensure children's right to safety and to a legitimate education without infringing on parents' rights to raise and educate their children. - R.E. H.

The lack of accountability and quality assessment requirements in my home state led to widespread abuse and lack of education achievement in my home and in my large local homeschooling community. Many of the children in my community, especially those in large families like my own, were not taught to read until ages eight and later. Children with special needs and learning differences had no access to outside help or trained professionals. Furthermore, many of the children in our community worked for family-run businesses during school hours and, as a result of this lack of accountability and access, achieved only a 5th-6th grade education. - Faith B.

I am deeply concerned for the safety and well-being of children who are withdrawn from traditional schooling (or never enrolled in the first place). While most homeschooling parents are good people, abusers can and do use the claim that they are "homeschooling" to hide abuse and neglect. Reasonable supervision and review requirements do not infringe on parental rights of homeschoolers and can save the lives of abused children. - Kelly C.

I oppose HB 1268 (Home Education Freedom Act) because eliminating basic notification and assessment requirements removes the minimal safeguards that help ensure homeschooled children actually receive an education and remain visible to the systems meant to protect them. -Ellie M. \*

### **ADDITIONAL OPPOSITION**

Josie C. - *friend of CRHE*

Shaylee H. - *friend of CRHE*

Kaley L. - *homeschool alum*

Jill G - *friend of CRHE\**

*\*denotes child welfare, safety, or education professional*