

**Statement of Opposition for CACR24
February 20th, 2026**

Dear New Hampshire House Education and Administration Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Coalition for Responsible Home Education, a homeschool alumni founded and powered organization. **We are in opposition of CACR24**, which states that “all parents and legal guardians, being the primary educators of their children, have the right to direct the education of their children, and this right shall not be violated.”

Education should be approached from a child-centered lens, in policy and in practice. It is ultimately children’s futures that are important, and this proposed constitutional amendment erroneously inserts parent’s rights into a conversation that should be about students. Especially in homeschooling, children need to remain central to any policy that is enacted in New Hampshire. CACR24 does not serve your most vulnerable constituents.

Our organization supports safe, responsible homeschooling through programming and advocacy informed by research, and centers the voice of alumni in that work. We are deeply familiar with the amplification of parent’s rights rather than children’s rights in homeschooling conversations, and implore the New Hampshire House Education and Administration Committee to listen to the voice of alumni who were once those homeschooled children.

Felicity is a part of CRHE, was homeschooled in New Hampshire and says - “I would wholeheartedly oppose this amendment”.

Please oppose CACR24.



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WHY HOMESCHOOL ALUMNI OPPOSE CACR24

I would oppose this constitutional amendment because, while parents play a central and important role in their children's education, framing them as the primary educators whose authority shall not be violated risks unintentionally eliminating the state's ability to ensure that every child receives a basic education and is protected from educational neglect.

-Ellie M.*

I oppose this amendment because it puts the rights of parents above the rights of children. It wrongly assumes that a child's right to an education is second to the rights of their adult parents to choose educational methods that best suit their own preferences. This statement does not provide checks and balances or a guarantee that parents will seek to provide their children with the quality education that is best for the child. Many homeschooled children like myself have been denied basic rights in the name of protecting parental rights. I had no access to mandated reporters to report physical abuse from my parents. I was also denied access to educational materials, books, internet access and opportunities to engage with the outside world.

- Faith B.

Parents have the right to direct their children's education, but children also have a right to safety and to a level of education that will enable them to care for themselves when they are grown. The amendment as written does not protect the rights of children of parents who could use the claim of "home education" to hide neglect and/or other abuse.

- Kelly C.

I oppose that amendment because being a parent does not confer the ability to deliver a comprehensive education that supports a child's intellectual and social growth and prepares them for adult life and work, and because shifting responsibility for children's education from public and private educational institutions run by trained professionals to individual parents removes key safeguards against physical, sexual, and emotional abuse both within and outside of the home.

- R.E. H.

Because being a parent does not give one the authority to override a child's autonomy and deny them a quality education just because they perceive homeschooling as a superior option.

- Anna G.*

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