



City of Somersworth – Ordinance

Resolution No: 18-26

JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH CITY COUNCIL AFFIRMING THE CITY OF SOMERSWORTH'S COMMITMENT TO SELF-DETERMINATION, SELF-GOVERNANCE, AND LOCAL CONTROL

February 17, 2026

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth affirms its support for locally determined school enrollment options; and

WHEREAS, the City of Somersworth opposes any statewide policies - including open enrollment - that risk exacerbating educational and financial inequities or compromising the sustainability of local school districts; and

WHEREAS, decisions regarding open enrollment must be made through a transparent, inclusive process at the local level, with meaningful input from those directly impacted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; that the City Council of the City of Somersworth opposes all attempts of any statewide policies that deter from the New Hampshire tradition of self-governance and local control. And, further opposes any attempt of implementing or dictating through State policy, the local governing body's right of self-determination and ability to enter, or not enter, into open enrollment agreements.

Authorization	
<i>Sponsored by:</i> Mayor Matt Gerding Councilor Crystal Paradis-Catanzaro	<i>Approved:</i> City Attorney

02/17/2026

Councilor Paradis-Catanzaro made a motion to adopt Resolution 18-26 as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gibson and passed 8-0 by roll call vote.

Voting Record		YES	NO
Ward 1 Councilor	McNair	X	
Ward 2 Councilor	Vincent	EXCUSED	
Ward 3 Councilor	Gibson	X	
Ward 4 Councilor	Paradis-Catanzaro	X	
Ward 5 Councilor	Michaud	X	
At Large Councilor	Witham	X	
At Large Councilor	Austin	X	
At Large Councilor	Cameron	X	
At Large Councilor	Barry	X	
TOTAL VOTES:		8	0
On 2/17/2026	Ordinance 18-26	PASSED	FAILED