



March 29, 2026

House Education Funding Committee  
Room 232, Legislative Office Building  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: Opposition to SB 513-FN – Requiring Owner’s Project Managers for School Building Aid Projects**

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Associated General Contractors of New Hampshire (AGC of NH), I write to express our opposition to SB 513-FN, which would require school districts to engage an owner’s project manager (OPM) at the time of application for school building aid projects.

AGC of NH represents commercial contractors, subcontractors, and construction service providers across the state who are directly involved in delivering public construction projects, including school facilities. While we strongly support effective project planning and oversight, we have concerns that this bill imposes a one-size-fits-all mandate that may not serve the best interests of all school districts or taxpayers.

Requiring an OPM at the earliest stage of the application process introduces additional upfront costs before a project has even been approved for funding. For smaller or resource-constrained districts, this requirement could create a barrier to entry—discouraging otherwise necessary projects or forcing districts to incur expenses without certainty that state aid will be awarded.

School districts vary widely in size, experience, and internal capabilities. Many already work effectively with architects, engineers, and construction professionals to develop viable projects prior to application. A statutory mandate removes local flexibility to determine when and how to engage outside project management services based on the specific needs and scale of a project.

We are also concerned that this requirement could unintentionally limit competition or reduce the ability of districts to structure project delivery in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

AGC of NH supports policies that encourage strong planning, transparency, and accountability in school construction.

However, we believe those goals can be achieved without imposing a rigid requirement at the application stage. Providing guidance or incentives—rather than mandates—would better preserve local control while still promoting best practices.

For these reasons, AGC of NH respectfully urges the Committee to find SB 513-FN Inexpedient to Legislate.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alex Koutroubas".

Alex Koutroubas  
Executive Vice President – NH Chapter  
Associated General Contractors of New Hampshire