

HB 207-FN - VERSION ADOPTED BY BOTH BODIES

2023 SESSION

23-0044

10/08

HOUSE BILL **207-FN**

AN ACT relative to school district unanticipated funds.

SPONSORS: Rep. Plett, Hills. 29; Rep. Cushman, Hills. 28

COMMITTEE: Education

ANALYSIS

This bill increases the amount of unanticipated funds for which a school district is required to give notice and hold a public meeting.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~in brackets and struck through.~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to school district unanticipated funds.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 School Money; Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds Made Available During Year; Amount
2 Increased. Amend RSA 198:20-b, III to read as follows:

3 III.(a) For unanticipated funds in the amount of [~~\$5,000~~] **\$20,000** or more, the school board
4 shall hold a prior public hearing on the action to be taken. Notice of the time, place, and subject of
5 such hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the relevant municipality at
6 least 7 days before the meeting is held.

7 (b) A school board may establish the amount of unanticipated funds required for notice
8 under this subparagraph, provided such amount is less than [~~\$5,000~~] **\$20,000**. For unanticipated
9 funds in an amount less than [~~\$5,000~~] **\$20,000**, the school board shall post notice of the funds in the
10 agenda and shall include notice in the minutes of the school board meeting in which such funds are
11 discussed. The acceptance of unanticipated funds under this subparagraph shall be made in public
12 session of any regular school board meeting.

13 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

**HB 207-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS INTRODUCED**

AN ACT relative to school district unanticipated funds.

FISCAL IMPACT: State County Local None

LOCAL:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable

METHODOLOGY:

This bill increases the threshold for the requirement for a school board to conduct a public meeting to accept and spend unanticipated revenue from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Approximately, 114 school districts have the authority to access unanticipated revenue. To the extent this change reduces the number of public hearings required to be conducted, school districts may experience an indeterminable cost savings. Public hearings are primarily done during non-business hours and require district staffing and facility operation expenditures. Therefore, this proposed bill may have an indeterminable decrease on local school district expenditures.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

Department of Education and New Hampshire Municipal Association