

Amendment to HB 427

1 Amend the bill by replacing all after the enacting clause with the following:

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3 1 School Board Public Comment Period. Amend RSA 189:74, I to read as follows:

4 I. School boards shall provide the opportunity for the public to comment on school district
5 matters at a meeting of the school board held under RSA 91-A:2. ~~[The public comment period shall~~
6 ~~be for no less than 30 minutes.]~~ ***Public comment periods shall be provided for public input for***
7 ***agenda items before board action is taken and shall also be provided for non-agenda items***
8 ***of community interest. Each public comment period shall be for no less than 30 minutes***
9 ***unless comments are completed earlier. Speakers shall be permitted to speak for no less***
10 ***than 3 minutes.*** School boards may request that persons register in advance of the meeting, but
11 may not require pre-registration as a condition of participating in the public comment period. School
12 boards may impose reasonable time limits for each speaker, provided such time limits are equal for
13 all speakers. Nothing in this section shall restrict school boards from establishing other reasonable
14 standards for the public comment period, provided such standards are imposed equally for all
15 speakers. School boards may reasonably restrict public comments that disclose student personally-
16 identifiable information, teacher personally-identifiable information, or other confidential or
17 privileged information.

18 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill requires public meetings held by a school board to include a designated time period for questions from the public and answers from the board before board action is taken, and requires speakers be given a minimum of 3 minutes to speak.