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June 6, 2022

The Honorable Karen Umberger, Chairman  
Fiscal Committee of the General Court  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, NH 03301

#### **REQUESTED ACTION**

Pursuant to RSA 14:30-a VI, authorize the New Hampshire Department of Education (NHED), Bureau of School Safety and Facility Management to accept and expend funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR), in the amount of up to \$10,260,000 for the support of school security projects for both public and non-public schools, using the Public School Infrastructure Fund processes established in FY 2018, effective upon Fiscal Committee and Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2023. This is an allowable use of ARPA SFRF funds under Section 602 (c)(1)(C) for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction of revenue of the State due to the covid-19 public health emergency. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds to be budgeted as follows:

#### **School Security Funding**

Account: 06-56-56-567010-XXXXXXXX<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[1] All direct program costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602GS5601A and all administrative and indirect costs will be accounted for using activity 00FRF602GS5601Z. Accounting classifications may be subject to technical changes at the discretion of the Department of Administrative Services' Division of Accounting Services.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>
<u><b>Income</b></u>		
000-400338	Federal Funds	\$10,260,000
<u><b>Expenditures</b></u>		
020-500200	Current Expense	\$2,000
027-582703	Transfers to DOIT	\$5,000
029-500290	Intra-Agency Transfers	\$30,000
030-500301	Equipment New/Replacement	\$3,000
037-500173	Technology-Hardware	\$3,500
038-500177	Technology-Software	\$2,000
040-501587	Indirect Costs	\$1,500
041-500801	Audit Fund Set Aside	\$15,000
050-500109	Personal Service Temp	\$5,000
060-500600	Benefits	\$1,000
070-500704	In State Travel	\$1,000
072-500577	Grants Federal	\$10,000,000
102-500731	Contracts for Program Services	\$191,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,260,000</b>

### **EXPLANATION**

The Governor and NH Legislature amended RSA 198 by inserting a new subdivision titled: Public School Infrastructure Fund and Public School Infrastructure Commissioner through Chapter 156, Laws of 2017 and amended in 2021. The purpose was “to provide funding for infrastructure projects for public elementary and secondary schools”. Between 2018 and 2021, \$27,746,632 was awarded to fund 619 security and infrastructure projects.

The Commission will use the Public School Infrastructure Commission process established in FY2018 to facilitate grants to both public and non-public schools. These processes are being opened to both public and non-public schools. Additional funding is being sought through the Governor’s Emergency Education Relief II (GEER II) Emergency Aid to Non-Public Schools (EANS) funds. A request has been made to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to determine eligibility. If these funds are determined to be eligible, NHED will seek to adjust its ARPA request to the extent GEER II funds are available.

The Commission will meet and develop applications for use by the schools that would support allowed projects. Schools submit applications to the Commission through the Homeland Security portal. The Commission will review each proposal and make project funding recommendations to the Governor, who may authorize such expenditures (RSA 198:15-y, III), as appropriate. NHED will process award payments.

The requested GOFFER funds, and GEER II funds, if eligible, would be specifically applied to projects to improve security in NH K-12 public and non-public schools.

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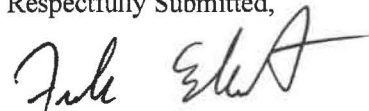
We estimate this funding will provide approximately 250 additional awards, ranging from \$40,000 to \$50,000 based on prior proposals and awards

The following appropriation authorities are being requested:

Class 020	Current Expense	Appropriation needed for current expenses
Class 027	Transfers to DOIT	Appropriation needed for DOIT expenses
Class 029	Intra-Agency Transfers	Appropriation needed for compliance, monitoring, & technical assistance
Class 030	Equipment New/Replacement	Appropriation needed Computer Equipment Purchase
Class 037	Technology-Hardware	Appropriation needed for Technology
Class 038	Technology-Software	Appropriation needed for Software Purchases
Class 040	Indirect Costs	Appropriation needed for Indirect Cost
Class 041	Audit Fund Set Aside	Appropriation needed for Audit Fund Set Aside
Class 050	Personal Service Temp	Appropriation needed for salary cost allocations
Class 060	Benefits	Appropriation needed for benefits associated with salary allocations
Class 070	In State Travel	Appropriation needed for Travel to NH Schools
Class 072	Federal Grants	Appropriation needed for NH K-12 Public Schools
Class 102	Contracts for Program Services	Appropriation needed for contracts to support program needs

In the event that Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support these programs.

Respectfully Submitted,



Frank Edelblut  
Commissioner of Education