



New Hampshire Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Carole Alfano, 603.496.0412

Republicans vote to pass SB130

Gives parents the ability to choose the schools right for their children

CONCORD, NH – Senate Republicans voted for choice and innovation in New Hampshire education by passing SB130 today. The legislation establishes Education Freedom Accounts (EFA's) allowing state education adequacy grants to follow the student, giving parents the ability to seek out the best educational route for their child.

Prime sponsor, Majority Leader Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro) called SB130, "Landmark legislation that will bring innovation to our school systems and help every child find the best educational path possible. The pandemic has shown us that we are way beyond the one-size fits all way of thinking when it comes to learning. The vast majority of parents will continue to send their children to their local public school, but for those parents who want a choice, EFA's give them that option, especially if they are from lower income households."

Bradley added, "In order to assist local school districts faced with the potential loss of state adequacy grants, SB130 institutes Phase-Out Grants. The lag in the adequacy formula means that districts would already receive 100% of their per-pupil adequacy grant for students who enroll in EFAs in the first year. The Phase-Out Grant would also provide districts with 50% of the adequate education grant for each student who chooses an EFA in the second year, and 25% in the third. The phase out grants would sunset in 2026."

"SB130 also includes a Means Test," said Bradley. "While the bill would allow any New Hampshire student to apply for an EFA, it exempts students from households earning 300% of the federal poverty level. This is the same poverty threshold as the state's successful Education Tax Credit scholarship and would limit the program to approximately 40% of New Hampshire families."

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