

**CACR 12 – AS INTRODUCED**

2011 SESSION

11-0222

06/05

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION **12**

RELATING TO: funding of public education.

PROVIDING THAT: the legislature shall define standards for education, determine the level of state funding thereof, establish standards of accountability, and allocate state funds in a manner that mitigates disparities in educational opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that a reasonable share of state funds shall be distributed on a per pupil basis.

SPONSORS: Rep. Hess, Merr 9; Rep. Graham, Hills 18; Rep. Packard, Rock 3; Rep. Jasper, Hills 27; Rep. Kurk, Hills 7; Rep. Bettencourt, Rock 4

COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Education Funding Reform

ANALYSIS

This constitutional amendment concurrent resolution provides that the legislature shall define standards for education, determine the level of state funding thereof, establish standards of accountability, and allocate state funds in a manner that mitigates disparities in educational opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that a reasonable share of state funds shall be distributed on a per pupil basis.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.

Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]

Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

11-0222

06/05

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eleven*

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROPOSING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

RELATING TO: funding of public education.

PROVIDING THAT: the legislature shall define standards for education, determine the level of state funding thereof, establish standards of accountability, and allocate state funds in a manner that mitigates disparities in educational opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that a reasonable share of state funds shall be distributed on a per pupil basis.

*Be it Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, that the Constitution of New Hampshire be amended as follows:*

I. That the second part of the constitution be amended by inserting after article 83 the following new article:

[Art.] 83-a [Funding Public Education.] In fulfillment of the state's duties set forth in part II, article 83 with respect to public education, the legislature shall have the authority and responsibility to reasonably define standards for elementary and secondary education in its public schools, determine the level of state funding thereof, and establish standards of accountability. The legislature shall have the authority to allocate state funds for public education in a manner that honors the authority and responsibilities of local communities and that reasonably will mitigate local disparities in educational opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that a reasonable share of state funds shall be distributed on a per pupil basis.

II. That the above amendment proposed to the constitution be submitted to the qualified voters of the state at the state general election to be held in November, 2012.

III. That the selectmen of all towns, cities, wards, and places in the state are directed to insert in their warrants for the said 2012 election an article to the following effect: To decide whether the amendments of the constitution proposed by the 2011 session of the general court shall be approved.

IV. That the wording of the question put to the qualified voters shall be:

“Are you in favor of amending the second part of the constitution by inserting after article 83 a new article to read as follows:

[Art.] 83-a [Funding Public Education.] In fulfillment of the state's duties set forth in part II, article 83 with respect to public education, the legislature shall have the

authority and responsibility to reasonably define standards for elementary and secondary education in its public schools, determine the level of state funding thereof, and establish standards of accountability. The legislature shall have the authority to allocate state funds for public education in a manner that honors the authority and responsibilities of local communities and that reasonably will mitigate local disparities in educational opportunity and fiscal capacity, provided that a reasonable share of state funds shall be distributed on a per pupil basis.”

V. That the secretary of state shall print the question to be submitted on a separate ballot or on the same ballot with other constitutional questions. The ballot containing the question shall include 2 squares next to the question allowing the voter to vote “Yes” or “No.” If no cross is made in either of the squares, the ballot shall not be counted on the question. The outside of the ballot shall be the same as the regular official ballot except that the words “Questions Relating to Constitutional Amendments proposed by the 2011 General Court” shall be printed in bold type at the top of the ballot.

VI. That if the proposed amendment is approved by 2/3 of those voting on the amendment, it becomes effective when the governor proclaims its adoption.