

# American Federation of Teachers-NH

*“Union of Professionals”*

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## AFT-NH POSITION STATEMENT IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 193

FOR SUBMISSION TO SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

February 7, 2017

Senate Bill 193 proposes a “Freedom Savings Account” which is almost identical to model legislation prepared by the American Legislative Exchange Council. This bill does not have its roots in New Hampshire and does not focus on the more than 180,000 students in our public schools and the devastating impact such legislation would have on their needs.

This bill is a voucher bill, couched in other language, and would result in the privatization and outsourcing of our cherished public education system.

There is a complete lack of transparency and accountability with this proposed legislation. The impact on our local school districts and property taxpayers would be severe.

AFT-NH **opposes** Senate Bill 193 and any such legislation. Our work should be focused on supporting our public schools and adequately funding our local school districts and providing property tax relief to our cities and towns by fully funding the obligations of the State of New Hampshire.

Attached for your use is a report from the American Federation of Teachers, our national organization, entitled, **“Education Savings Accounts: Vouchers That Stop at the Bank En Route to Privatizing Education”**.