

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**March 8, 2023**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE**

**The Committee on Education to which was referred HB  
349,**

**AN ACT relative to a special purpose school district for  
Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. Having considered  
the same, report the same with the recommendation  
that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.**

**Rep. Rick Ladd**

**FOR THE COMMITTEE**

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	<b>Education</b>
Bill Number:	<b>HB 349</b>
Title:	<b>relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.</b>
Date:	<b>March 8, 2023</b>
Consent Calendar:	<b>CONSENT</b>
Recommendation:	<b>OUGHT TO PASS</b>

### STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 1997, the New Hampshire General Court passed HB 436 that allowed the establishment of a special village district for the towns of Hebron and Bridgewater to construct, own, and maintain a public school facility with three elected commissioners to oversee the school facility and grounds. The village district then constructed and continues to own, debt free, the Bridgewater-Hebron Village school building, surrounding athletic fields and furnishings. It leases the school to the Newfound Area School District for \$1.00 per year. Teachers, staff, and curriculum management are provided by the Newfound Area School District. This bill is designed to expand Bridgewater's and Hebron's legal status as a village district, and explore, over a 4-year period, the establishment of a three-town special purpose school district. This is a VERY unique situation as Bridgewater and Hebron is the ONLY village district that owns its own school, but is not a school district. The goal of this bill is to reconfigure and structure the village district as a K-8 school district. Currently, the village school's education performance is outstanding and ranked among the top K-5 schools in the state. The current student count of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton accounts for about 15% of the Newfound Area School District student body and the corresponding budget contribution is roughly 16%. It is estimated that the reduction in middle school expenses coupled with SAU 4 gains in tuition and administrative revenue by the special village district also becoming a school district would result in little to NO fiscal impact to SAU 4. It should also be noted that Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton are located on the extreme northwest corner of the Newfound Area School District. This results in students having to ride on a school bus 2.5 hours per day, an excessively long daily bus journey. This bill will rectify that situation. The firm of Wadleigh, Starr, and Peters (Manchester Attorneys of Law) have stated that this bill applies to a local situation where a separate municipality owns the building in which the children are educated; it is not capable of repetition elsewhere in the state and represents a truly unique set of facts. Lastly, in a letter received by the Education Committee from Virginia Berry (former Commissioner of NH Department of Education, 2009-2017) states that she STRONGLY supports the establishment of a special-purpose school district as proposed by the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.

Vote 18-2.

Rep. Rick Ladd

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk  
Cc: Committee Bill File

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### Education

**HB 349**, relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Rick Ladd for Education. In 1997, the New Hampshire General Court passed HB 436 that allowed the establishment of a special village district for the towns of Hebron and Bridgewater to construct, own, and maintain a public school facility with three elected commissioners to oversee the school facility and grounds. The village district then constructed and continues to own, debt free, the Bridgewater-Hebron Village school building, surrounding athletic fields and furnishings. It leases the school to the Newfound Area School District for \$1.00 per year. Teachers, staff, and curriculum management are provided by the Newfound Area School District. This bill is designed to expand Bridgewater's and Hebron's legal status as a village district, and explore, over a 4-year period, the establishment of a three-town special purpose school district. This is a VERY unique situation as Bridgewater and Hebron is the ONLY village district that owns its own school, but is not a school district. The goal of this bill is to reconfigure and structure the village district as a K-8 school district. Currently, the village school's education performance is outstanding and ranked among the top K-5 schools in the state. The current student count of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton accounts for about 15% of the Newfound Area School District student body and the corresponding budget contribution is roughly 16%. It is estimated that the reduction in middle school expenses coupled with SAU 4 gains in tuition and administrative revenue by the special village district also becoming a school district would result in little to NO fiscal impact to SAU 4. It should also be noted that Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton are located on the extreme northwest corner of the Newfound Area School District. This results in students having to ride on a school bus 2.5 hours per day, an excessively long daily bus journey. This bill will rectify that situation. The firm of Wadleigh, Starr, and Peters (Manchester Attorneys of Law) have stated that this bill applies to a local situation where a separate municipality owns the building in which the children are educated; it is not capable of repetition elsewhere in the state and represents a truly unique set of facts. Lastly, in a letter received by the Education Committee from Virginia Berry (former Commissioner of NH Department of Education, 2009-2017) states that she STRONGLY supports the establishment of a special-purpose school district as proposed by the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. **Vote 18-2.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 349**

**BILL TITLE:** relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.

**DATE:** March 8, 2023

**LOB ROOM:** 207

**MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS**

Moved by Rep. Ladd

Seconded by Rep. O. Ford

Vote: 18-2

**CONSENT CALENDAR: YES**

**Statement of Intent:** Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Arlene Quaratiello, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # HS 349

BILL TITLE: ... Special purpose school district  
DATE: 3/8/23 Bridgewater, etc  
LOB ROOM: 205-207

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. Fadd      Seconded by Rep. Ford      Vote: 18-2

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # \_\_\_\_\_
- Interim Study (2nd year) (if offered)

Moved by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Seconded by Rep. \_\_\_\_\_      Vote: \_\_\_\_\_

CONSENT CALENDAR:  YES       NO

Minority Report? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes      \_\_\_\_\_ No      If yes, author, Rep: \_\_\_\_\_      Motion \_\_\_\_\_

Respectfully submitted: *Arden Duratelli*



2023 SESSION

Education

Bill #: HB 349 Motion: OTP AM #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exec Session Date: 3/8/23

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Ladd, Rick M. Chairman	18		
Cordelli, Glenn Vice Chairman	1		
Lekas, Alicia D.	2		
Ford, Oliver J. Clerk	3		
Belcher, Mike S.	4		
Drye, Margaret M.	5		
McDonnell, Valerie E.	6		
Noble, Kristin	7		
Peternel, Katy	8		
Quaratiello, Arlene	9		
Myler, Mel	10		
Cornell, Patricia	11		
Tanner, Linda L.		1	
Luneau, David J.		2	
Ellison, Arthur S.	12		
Woodcock, Stephen L.	13		
Hall, Muriel C.	14		
Balboni, Peggy	15		
S Cascadden, Corinne E.	16		
Damon, Hope	17		
<b>TOTAL VOTE:</b>	18	2	

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PUBLIC HEARING ON HB 349

**BILL TITLE:** relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.

**DATE:** February 10, 2023

**LOB ROOM:** 205-207                      **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** 10:30 am

**Time Adjourned:** 12:10 pm

**Committee Members:** Reps. Ladd, Cordelli, O. Ford, Belcher, Drye, McDonnell, Noble, Peternel, Quaratiello, Myler, Cornell, Tanner, Ellison, Woodcock, Hall

**Bill Sponsors:**

Rep. Ladd  
Sen. Ward

Rep. Cordelli

Sen. Innis

**TESTIMONY**

\* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

**Rep. Rick Ladd - Prime Sponsor**

- Cited Previous law to establish village school in Bridgewater and Hebron. HB436-1997
- This bill would give local control to this local facility owned by village which is unique situation.
- Ultimate goal is achievement and growth of students; "equitable apportionment" would result by passing this bill and would require no new administration - and results in no detrimental effects in other districts.

**Terry Murphy - Bridgewater Selectman**

- Supports
- Provided background on Hebron Village School which towns want to reconfigure into a K-8 school; bill would allow more effective local control and support better education for children, and provide a "fix" to current problems

**\*Derry Riddle**

- Supports Bill, would provide better educational opportunities for students
- Read & submitted her written testimony
- Read letter from Virginia M. Barry, former Education Commissioner that highlighted school choice and how this bill would support that in specific towns.

**Pierre Couture - Superintendent SAU 4**

- Opposes bill
- Bill will set a precedent to allow towns to withdraw from cooperative districts; risk presented to Newfound district; objected to idea for bill never being presented to School Board.

**John Rescigno - Groton Selectman**

- Supports bill
- Praised current K-5 school;; K-8 model will set children up for future success and will create more effective control over school system; supported K-8 public school alternative.

**\*Patrick Moriarty**

- Supports
- Asserted that the people support this bill which would benefit a vital part of the community and improve public education; will address logistical geographic challenges.



**Rep. Carroll Brown**

- Neutral on bill Highlighted "contentious" school funding formula in current district which may end up making towns identifies in bill paying more than other towns;
- This is an "important piece of puzzle" in considering bill.

**Jennifer Larochelle**

- Supports
- Mother of Hebron Village School student; highlighted benefits of K-8 model; strong educational benefit.

**\*Bill Luti**

- Supports
- Read letter from law firm that confirmed legality of bill and identified it as enabling legislation.

**Tom Curren**

- Supports
- Highlighted problems of lengthy commutes, behavioral problems; small towns feel overpowered by large districts; this bill will be "enabling"

**Erick Piper**

- Supports
- Bill brings innovative educational options not just to three towns but entire current SAU;
- Will not adversely effect anyone in current district;
- Bill will increase education opportunities that are under local control.

**Tracey Steenbergen**

- Supports
- Told story of grandson, Ben enrolled in Hebron Village School where he is thriving and provided with education he needs to address his special needs.

**\*Sara Smith**

- Supports
- Told story of son who attended Hebron Village School where he received a "great education" with lots of support.
- Associated advantages of K-8 model, and disadvantages of long commute to Middle School.

**Debra Howes**

- Opposes; Represented concerns of New Found Teachers Union;
- Undoing regional school district is not solution to issues detailed by previous testimony by parents.

**Aubrey Freedman**

- Supports
- This bill is an "opt-out" bill for residents of three towns;
- Parents can choose to send kids to middle school;
- Bill expands options

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rep. Arlene Quaratiello, Clerk**



# House Remote Testify

## Education Committee Testify List for Bill HB349 on 2023-02-10

Support: 256 Oppose: 4 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

<u>Name</u>	<u>City, State</u> <u>Email Address</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Testifying</u>	<u>Non-Germane</u>	<u>Signed Up</u>
Curren, Thomas	Bridgewater, NH tomcurren47@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 9:11 AM
Luti, Bill	Hebron, NH skyeking1@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 11:35 AM
Converse, Julie	Bristol, NH ja.benard.converse@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 12:38 PM
Capsalis, Michael	Bridgewater, NH Mikecapsalis@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 1:55 PM
Kriebel, Harriett	Bridgewater, NH cdkriebel@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 2:02 PM
Weidman, Jr, William	Bridgewater, NH Kandsweidman@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 2:09 PM
Marshall, Eric	Bridgewater, NH marshall418@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 2:26 PM
Wilson, Paul	Bridgewater, NH wudply@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 2:35 PM
Erickson, John	Bridgewater, NH olyerickson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:01 PM
Hart, Paul	Bridgewater, NH Paulthart@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:12 PM
Hart, Jane	Bridgewater, NH Janelhart1@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:13 PM
Gilman, George & Suzanne	Bridgewater, NH g2sgilman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:20 PM
Dessert, Don	Bridgewater, NH cadbuilder@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:33 PM

Atwood, Sindee	Bridgewater, NH atwood@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:40 PM
Benziger, Carol	Bridgewater, NH cabenziger@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 3:54 PM
German, Raymond	Bridgewater, NH Drvnputt@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:06 PM
Woods, Robin	Bridgewater, NH robin.h.woods@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:09 PM
Woods, Steven	Bridgewater, NH SPWoods603@Gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:11 PM
Adamsky, Ruthann	Bridgewater, NH ruthannadamsky@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:23 PM
Coscia, Michael	Bridgewater, NH michaelcoscia09@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:29 PM
Bird, Jeff	Bridgewater, NH Jtbird66@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:29 PM
Bednaz, Mike	Bridgewater, NH mike@walawebtech.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:38 PM
McDermod, Stephen	Bridgewater, NH steviemcd@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 4:40 PM
Erickson, Jill	Bristol, NH erickson.jill@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 5:02 PM
Pawlicki, Vincent	Bridgewater, NH Vincent.pawlicki@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 5:10 PM
Murphy, Terence	Bridgewater, NH townofbridgewaternh@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 5:32 PM
Cormier, Jason	Groton, NH Jason.g.cormier@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 6:42 PM
Silbermann, Peter	Bridgewater, NH peter.silbermann@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 7:29 PM
Piper, Tracey	Bridgewater, NH Tapiper2@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/2/2023 11:41 PM
Gilpatric, William	Bridgewater, NH billgilpatric750@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 6:08 AM
MacDougall, Madeleine	Bridgewater, NH wemac@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 8:35 AM

MacDougall, Bruce	Bridgewater, NH wemac@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 8:35 AM
Benziger, Gerard	BRIDGEWATER, NH jerrybz1@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 9:43 AM
Gilpatric, Eleanor T.	Bridgewater, NH teesnbees@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:28 AM
McPhee, Bruce	Epping, NH jacob_2@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:43 AM
Howell, Gail	Hebron, NH ghowell@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:47 AM
Laux, Robert Christopher	Hebron, NH 452rcl@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:50 AM
Morrill, Joanne	Bridgewater, NH nstargems@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:50 AM
Morel, Albert	Hebron, FL a17morel@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:52 AM
Morel, Loraine	Hebron, FL a17morel@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:53 AM
Hilson, John	Hebron, NH jfhilson@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 10:57 AM
ANDERSON, STEPHANIE	Bridgewater, NH andnunez@saber.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:03 AM
LaPlante, Jeffrey	BRIDGEWATER, NH jlaplante671@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:04 AM
Collins, Ronald	Hebron, NH ronaldcollins@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:10 AM
Boccia, Judith	Hebron, NH Judith.boccia@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:10 AM
Hilson, Cynthia	Hebron, NH article9ucc@netzero.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:12 AM
Atephens, Scott	Hebron, NH Scott.stephens@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:19 AM
YOUNG, MAYNARD	HEBRON, NH myoung@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:28 AM
Derochea jr, Stephen	Hebron, NH steve.derochea@aecom.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:36 AM

Smith, Suzanne	Hebron, NH zanne719@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 11:39 AM
burton, michael	Hebron, NH mburton58@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 12:04 PM
Roumeliotis, Diane	Hebron, NH Itssyb@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 12:06 PM
Roumeliotis, Chris	Hebron, NH chris.roumeliotis.hebron@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 12:08 PM
Burton, Stephen	Hebron, NH sburton13@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 12:14 PM
York, Alison	Hebron, NH aliyork48@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 1:19 PM
York, William	Hebron, NH bill48nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 1:21 PM
LaVecchia, Victoria	Hebron, NH Vlavec@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 1:26 PM
Basile, Joan	Hebron, NH basilejoan@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 1:40 PM
Kennedy, Dana	Hebron, NH kennedyclan@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 1:41 PM
Bowe, Gerald	Bridgewater, NH Gbowe1974@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 2:04 PM
Bolln, George	Hebron, NH gbolln@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 2:26 PM
Weston, Joyce	Plymouth, NH jweston14@roadrunner.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/3/2023 3:15 PM
Rescigno, Gina	Groton, NH ginarescigno1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2023 7:15 PM
Wagler, Heather	San Clemente, CA heatherwagler713@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2023 7:24 PM
Kathleen, Bird	Bridgewater, NH krbird25@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2023 7:49 PM
Reynolds, Christina	Bridgewater, NH cmreynolds511@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/5/2023 7:51 PM
Millett, Ruth	Groton, NH rem1752nh@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/5/2023 9:16 PM

Riess, Robert	HEBRON, NH rob@riessconstruction.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 6:45 AM
Riess, Michael	Plymouth, NH mike@riessconstruction.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 6:50 AM
Latulippe, Anita	Bridgewater, NH aslatulippe@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 8:23 AM
Shackett, Jeff	Bridgewater, NH Jeff@shacketts.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 8:59 AM
Riddle, Derry	Hebron, NH riddlehogan@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:11 AM
Ellis, Robert	Groton, NH rpew@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:23 AM
LaCarte, John	Hebron, NH jlacarte@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:25 AM
LaCarte, Lisa	Hebron, NH lisalacarte@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:26 AM
Bernhardt, Paul	Groton, NH bitrootvz@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:32 AM
Oliver, Holly	Hebron, NH hollyoliver878@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:35 AM
Luti, Donna	Hebron, NH skyeking1@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:44 AM
Goodman, Lawrence	Hebron, NH larrygoodman4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:47 AM
Finney, Timothy	Bridgewater, NH timfinney@duck.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:49 AM
Smith, Sara	Groton, NH saramoores@ymail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:51 AM
Coutu, Russell	Groton, NH saramoores@ymail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:52 AM
Piper, Erick	Bridgewater, NH erickpiper16@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:56 AM
Finney, Barbara	Bridgewater, NH bfinney1215@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 10:00 AM
Piper, conner	Bridgewater, NH conner1992@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 10:11 AM

Hogan, Joseph	Hebron, NH jhogan@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 10:52 AM
Nelson, Scott	Bridgewater, NH wheels.48@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 11:07 AM
Nelson, Ingrid	Bridgewater, NH ikpsln@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 11:08 AM
Murphy, Kieran	Bridgewater, NH kieranmurphy7001@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 11:26 AM
Barry, Virginia	Bridgewater, NH vmbarry@plymouth.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 11:27 AM
Van Schaick, James	Hebron, NH pastor.van@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 11:40 AM
Braconier, Karl	Hebron, NH bractek@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 12:09 PM
Joyce, Ann	Groton, NH amj8347@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 12:20 PM
Weber, Marion E.	Hebron, NH mweber@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 12:49 PM
Kohout, Barbara	Hebron, MA barbara.kohout@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 1:14 PM
Rescigno, John	Groton, NH johnrescigno1@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 1:29 PM
Flynn, Roberta	Hebron, NH robbieflynn9@gmail.com	An Elected Official	myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 2:14 PM
Widerstrom, Sally	Plymouth, NH sallyswid@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:01 PM
Weber, Edwin	Hebron, NH eweber@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:04 PM
Innis, Senator Dan	Bradford, NH Daniel.Innis@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:15 PM
Ward, Senator Ruth	Stoddard, NH Ruth.Ward@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:15 PM
Braconier, Kellie	Hebron, NH kabraconier5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:20 PM
Flynn, Gerard	Hebron, NH gerardtflynn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:23 PM



Doucette, Jack	Bridgewater, NH Lawnguyjack@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:26 PM
Balise, Stanley	Bridgewater, NH boatstan@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:47 PM
Dodge, Judith A	Hebron, NH jadodge@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:54 PM
Faran, Judith	Bridgewater, NH Judithfaran@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 3:58 PM
Cashman, Dennis	Bridgewater, NH Cashman.dennis@snet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:05 PM
Lawrence, Richard	Bridgewater, NH Richlawrence1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:08 PM
Williams, Rose	Bridgewater, NH cracklinrose@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:28 PM
Cashman, Linda	Bridgewater, NH lcashman@snet.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:29 PM
Davis, Rachel	Bridgewater, NH racheldavis77@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:30 PM
Boivin, Daniel	Bridgewater, NH DANBOIVIN@METROCAST.NET	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 4:38 PM
Billeter, joseph	Bridgewater, NH josephbilleter@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:02 PM
Billeter, Chan	Bristol, NH cbilleter@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:03 PM
Billeter, Miles	Bridgewater, NH miles.billeter@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:04 PM
Paradis, Paul	Bridgewater, NH pappy31@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:09 PM
Mansour, Julie	Bridgewater, NH juliemansour@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:24 PM
Marshall, Larkin	Bridgewater, NH larkin.gause@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 5:26 PM
Santamaria, Carolyn	Bridgewater, NH Cws@jpsindustries.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 6:24 PM
Blaisdell, George	Bridgewater, NH gblaisdell@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 7:40 PM

EASTMAN, GARVIN	Bridgewater, NH garvin.eastman@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 7:47 PM
Kaminski, Marie	Bridgewater, NH Martkam4492@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 7:51 PM
Gilpatric, Eleanor	Bridgewater, NH teesnbees@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 7:52 PM
DeLuca, Robert	Bridgewater, NH delucarobert239@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:36 PM
DeLuca, Maureen	Bridgewater, NH Maureen.deluca@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:39 PM
DeLuca, Jr., Robert	Bridgewater, NH robkathy@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:49 PM
DeLuca, Kathy	Bridgewater, NH robkathy@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 9:52 PM
Jones, Eric	Groton, NH ejoneseis@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 10:56 PM
Glidden, Jamie	Groton, NH lakebouy.j@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/6/2023 10:56 PM
Tucker, Daniel	Bridgewater, NH drtucker74@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 5:18 AM
Goodman, Deborah	Hebron, NH debgoodman5@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 8:49 AM
JAMES, Richard	Hebron, NH rjamesb@outlook.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:00 AM
Hall, Ben	Hebron, NH bnrm45@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:11 AM
Kerouac Hall, Holly	Bridgewater, NH holly@nfcountrystore.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:25 AM
Hall, Craig	Bridgewater, NH holly@hallsexcavation.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:26 AM
Petraszewski, Peggy	Bridgewater, NH peggyp44@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:46 AM
Riddle, Doris	Hebron, NH RiddleFamilyTrust@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:57 AM
Gaffey, Ruth	Groton, NH ruthgaffey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:57 AM

West, Dian	Hebron, NH Dian03241@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:59 AM
Graves, Donna	Bristol, NH dmgraves9@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 10:33 AM
Graves, John	Bristol, NH jgraves543@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 10:33 AM
Jeness Jr, Maurice	Bridgewater, NH skipjeness@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 11:15 AM
Malette, Charlene	Bridgewater, NH r.malette@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 12:38 PM
Wirth, Linda	Hebron, NH lwirth@plymouth.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 12:42 PM
Malette, Ronald W.	Bridgewater, NH r.Malette@yahoo..com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 12:42 PM
Larochelle, Jennifer	Hebron, NH jlarochelle1965@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 1:55 PM
Nagy, Richard	BRIDGEWATER, NH nagy_richard@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 2:51 PM
Nagy, Mary	BRIDGEWATER, NH katenagy@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 2:59 PM
Hogan, Lindsay	Hebron, NH lgallagherrn@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 3:22 PM
Quinchia, Ivan	Hebron, NH Iquinchia@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 3:25 PM
Smith, Robin	Bridgewater, NH Biskett1@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 4:35 PM
Bissonnette, Judith	Bristol, NH Biskett1@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 4:36 PM
Small, Steven	Bridgewater, NH allsmallsteven@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 4:47 PM
LaFreniere, Shannon	Groton, NH Harleyow118@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 7:07 PM
LaFreniere, Michael	Groton, NH Harleyow10507@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 7:14 PM
Civetti, Donald	Groton, NH pamcivetti@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 7:14 PM

Civetti, Pam	Groton, NH pamcivetti@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 7:15 PM
Beliveau, Jonathan	Groton, NH Jon.beliveau@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 8:23 PM
Howard, Emily	Groton, NH Em.howard603@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 8:40 PM
Lahey, Joyce	Hebron, NH Joycelahey@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:08 PM
Lerner, Lori	Bridgewater, NH llerner01@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 9:29 PM
Sanborn, Karen	Hebron, NH sanbornk2019@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/7/2023 10:54 PM
Small, Kelley	Bridgewater, NH allsmall7@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 5:54 AM
Hamel, Pamela	Groton, NH hamelfarm@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:31 AM
Hamel, Michael	Groton, NH hamelfiber@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:32 AM
Paula, Elaine	Bridgewater, NH elaine.g.paula@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:17 AM
Carpenter, Cynthia	Groton, NH Lillyhummer00@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:46 AM
Carpenter, James	Groton, NH Jscarpenter50@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:55 AM
McMahon, W Stephen	Bridgewater, NH wsmcmahon@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:04 AM
Darlington, Stacey	Groton, NH stacydarlington72@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:06 AM
Darlington, David	Groton, NH dwdsad@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:08 AM
Johnson, Audrey	Hebron, NH anewfound@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:30 AM
Rose, Debbie	Bridgewater, NH djeanrose@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 9:04 AM
Rose, Joseph	Bridgewater, NH joerosedairyfarm@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 9:05 AM

Cummings, Bruce	Bridgewater, NH bhcummings1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 9:08 AM
Cummings, Deborah	Bridgewater, NH dcummings1122@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 9:09 AM
Keppelman, Christopher	BRIDGEWATER, NH ckep109@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 10:22 AM
Thompson, Amy	Bridgewater, NH amyt2465@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 10:22 AM
Abbene, Kathleen	Hebron, NH kabbene@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 11:02 AM
Abbene, Richard	Hebron, NH raca7duck@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 11:04 AM
Millett, Douglas	Groton, NH dom1752nh@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 11:33 AM
Wallace, Janet M	Groton, NH janetmwallace@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 11:34 AM
Carter, Sandy	Bridgewater, NH sandyecarter@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/8/2023 12:06 PM
Wisniewski, Robert	Hebron, NH bibwoss017@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 12:29 PM
Wisniewski, Janet	Hebron, NH ladywiz2005@myfairpoint.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 12:36 PM
Henderson, Judy	Bridgewater, NH jahenderson@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 12:44 PM
Meuse, William	Bridgewater, NH bmeuse1210@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 1:20 PM
Meuse, Ellen	Bridgewater, NH Stressrn1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 1:21 PM
Ruoff, Fred	Bridgewater, NH fruoff2@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 1:28 PM
Barnard, Janice	Hebron, NH jbarnard12@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 3:45 PM
Sharp, Bethany	Groton, NH beth8814@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 3:49 PM
Murdy, Richard	Bridgewater, NH rmvette66@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:22 PM

Murdy, Kathleen	Bridgewater, NH kathymurdy@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:24 PM
Albert, Tony	GROTON, NH saramoores@ymail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:29 PM
freije, grace	bridgewater, NH mcfreije@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:51 PM
Steenbergen, Tracey	Hebron, NH sjta63@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:53 PM
Mills, Elizabeth	Hebron, NH lgreanmills@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 4:57 PM
Hogan, Voss	Hebron, NH Vhogan1331@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 5:09 PM
Divelbiss, Christina	Auburn, NH christina.divelbiss@geappliances.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 5:10 PM
Kohout, Frederick	Hebron, NH fckohout@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 5:13 PM
Wirth, Peter	Hebron, NH cocomo@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:24 PM
carpenter, Brianne	Groton, NH Bricarpenter79@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:29 PM
Madden, Kristina	Groton, NH kristinabrd@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:40 PM
Naimie, Matthew	Bridgewater, NH Mjnaimie@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:52 PM
Naimie, Joanne	Bridgewater, NH Mjnaimie@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 6:53 PM
Steenbergen, Andrew	Hebron, NH strategic@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:10 PM
Steenbergen, Jason	Hebron, NH ja.steenbergen@outlook.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:11 PM
Nelson, Sharon	Groton, NH grotonnhcc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:39 PM
Riess, Martha	Hebron, NH mm7riess@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 7:45 PM
Kenny, Colleen	Bridgewater, NH colkenny@gmail.com	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:06 PM

Reilly, Kerry	Bristol, NH kreilly92@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 8:20 PM
Moore, Caleb	Groton, NH Calebmoore18@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/8/2023 10:57 PM
Murphy, Linda	Bridgewater, NH Pasquaney55@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/8/2023 10:58 PM
Murphy, William	Bridgewater, NH Wmurphy@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	2/8/2023 11:02 PM
Larochelle, Roger	Hebron, NH roger@foreversquam.org	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 7:38 AM
Hardy, Anne	Hebron, NH adh1195@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 8:01 AM
morgan, john	Plymouth, NH jamm1@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 8:18 AM
Bharucha, Camille	Hebron, NH cam.bharucha@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 9:19 AM
Griffin, Parker	Hebron, NH parkergriffin@mac.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 9:27 AM
Lawrence, Rich	Bridgewater, NH Richlawrence1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 10:04 AM
Mills, John	Hebron, NH jmillsconstruction@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 10:54 AM
Davis, James	HEBRON, NH jim44nh@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 11:33 AM
Petersen, Anice	Hebron, NH apetersen001@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 12:42 PM
Johnson, Linda	Bridgewater, NH ljj02@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 12:56 PM
Simula, Katlin	Groton, NH ksully53@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 1:15 PM
Drake, Lindsay	Hebron, NH lindsaypg4@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 1:47 PM
Drake, William	Hebron, NH Billfrake21@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 1:47 PM
Oliver, Ralph	Hebron, NH rloliver925@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 1:54 PM

Eibye, Donna	Hebron, NH donnaeibye@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 2:28 PM
Lovett Delanoy, Susan	Bridgewater, NH sldelanoy@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 2:43 PM
Moriarty, Patrick	HEBRON, NH pkmoriar@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 3:44 PM
Wilkas, Joe	Bridgewater, NH jrsmw@aol.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 3:58 PM
King, Marjorie	Bridgewater, NH mak7p20@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 4:01 PM
Henderson, Walter	Bridgewater, NH walt_h@metrocast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 4:43 PM
Parker, Virginia	Groton, NH virginiahaleparker@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 5:22 PM
Jenness, Myrna	Bridgewater, NH myrnajenness@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 5:44 PM
KLEIN, Angela	BREWSTER, MA ccangela@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 6:22 PM
Klein, William	Brewster, MA wjklein1@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 6:22 PM
Piper, Cormac	Bridgewater, NH cmpiper34@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 7:19 PM
Barnard, Bridget	Hebron, NH barnard.household@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 7:40 PM
Barnard, Matt	Hebron, NH matthewbbarnard@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 7:53 PM
O'Connor, Mary Ellen	Hebron, NH Moconnor5@msn.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 7:59 PM
Dunn, Brett	Bridgewater, NH bdpharmd@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 8:24 PM
VanDuzer, Rachel	Hebron, NH rachel.vanduzer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 10:13 PM
Woolsey, Elizabeth	Bridgewater, NH ecaverly19@elmira.edu	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 11:13 PM
Woolsey, Cameron	Bridgewater, NH Cgwoolsey@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/9/2023 11:16 PM



Cormier, Katie	Groton, NH katie.brammer@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 5:30 AM
Arena, Donna	Groton, NH darena26@yahoo.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 6:45 AM
Apra, Leslie	Hebron, NH Ll_aprea@me.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:03 AM
Apra, Stephen	Hebron, NH saprea1129@icloud.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:06 AM
Jones, Thomas O.	Hebron, NH tjones@ccgroup.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:25 AM
Apra, Emily	Hebron, NH emaprea@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:28 AM
Apra, Jason	Hebron, NH Bbetterinc@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:30 AM
Dunn, Jessica	Bridgewater, NH Mucolsj@hotmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 8:32 AM
James, Deborah	Hebron, NH debbiejames2@live.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 9:30 AM
Macleod, Dorothy	BridgewTer, NH macleod174@verizon.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 11:47 AM
Barnard, STACIE	Hebron, NH StacieLH1311@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 1:02 PM
Richards, James	Hebron, NH rjames55@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 5:55 PM
Shea, Katherine	Goffstown, NH klynshoa4618@gmail.com	A Member of the Public	Myself	Support	No	No	2/10/2023 11:43 PM

Hello,

First of all, thank you for taking the time out of your busy schedules to hear us out on House Bill 349. My name is Sara Smith, I am a Groton Resident, I work for the Town of Groton and I am a parent of a child that attended Bridgewater-Hebron Village School (BHVS), Newfound Memorial Middle School, Newfound Regional High School and graduated from there in 2022.

I am here to fully support House Bill 349 for many reasons.

One of the main reasons is that it will provide our students with a better education if they have a K-8 model. K-8 models have been proven to be beneficial and have many advantages. Currently, our students leave the Bridgewater Hebron Village School after 5<sup>th</sup> grade and attend Newfound Memorial Middle School from 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. A K-8 model would allow them to stay where they are comfortable for a few more years. The age that they attend middle school is an awkward time for these kids. Physically, mentally and emotionally they are going through so many changes and not having to change schools on top of that would be extremely beneficial. When they leave Bridgewater-Hebron Village School they are going from being the older students at the school to the younger students at the middle school. This can be very tough on all kids and can lead to grades declining, attitudes declining and other negative affects while they are in middle school. This is a difficult time for students when they are going through many hormonal changes, body changes, etc. and changing of schools could be avoided at this time making things easier on them and allowing their academics to not be negatively affected.

I have done some research and one of the advantages I found is that “Students in K-8 schools thrive in the vibrant sense of community, develop important leadership skills and perform better academically than those who attend traditional K-5 and 6-8 environments.” This is a huge reason why I support this bill.

The reason I just discussed is a positive reason for all students. Now I want to discuss a reason for our Groton students. We live in a rural community and Bridgewater Hebron Village School is closer to our town than the Middle School and High School is. When going to the middle school, our students in grades 6-8 are on the bus for about an hour and when going to the high school it is even longer, over an hour. This is too long for kids age K-8 to be on a bus knowing they get antsy. This can cause students to lose their patience and get distracted and act up when they normally wouldn't. This is caused from boredom or more time on the bus with older students. If these students were at BHVS from K-8 this would eliminate that extra time on the bus. Then when they are older and going to the high school, they will be on the bus longer when they will be able to handle it better.

Now speaking as a parent, I no longer have children in school but I am still advocating for all of the other children. We had an amazing experience at Bridgewater Hebron Village School and I wish the K-8 model was in effect when my son was in school. I know him and his friends would have benefited from this for the reasons I have listed above and for the many reasons you have heard and will continue to hear today from the other supporters.

I know there are many other people here to speak so I don't want to take more of your time with the chance of being repetitive but I will leave you today strongly urging you to pass this bill so that our students can receive the better education that they deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration!!

Sara Smith

Patrick Moriarty

Member of the Hebron Select Board for 10 years, I also attend the Planning Board and Conservation Committee, I am here to represent the other Board members and the Town of Hebron.

I grew up in a low income household as my Dad was a POW and disabled veteran

I lived in public housing and attended public schools . I am a strong advocate for public schools and consider that the education provided is critical to success of the students and to our state and nation.

My public education lead me to a scholarship to Northeastern University, where I graduated with honors. After my military service I completed a Masters Degree at Babson College.

For the past twenty years I have been a trustee for the Mayhew Program, an important non-profit serving disadvantaged youth in our state. I am now the Treasurer so work daily on youth development in our state.

The people of Hebron are aware of this proposed legislation and are in favor. The people of Bridgewater and Hebron paid for the school and maintain it on an annual basis. They take great pride in the school as an important part of our community. The school is our emergency shelter, our police protect it and visit for safety checks and run the bike safety programs. We alone provide these services as well as excellent athletic fields, with any outside financial support. The towns' people understand this proposal is not done for financial benefit in fact expect an increase in school expense. We fully intend to cooperate with SAU 4 for high school and all other issues.

Our goal is only to improve public education.

Our current school district , SAU4, covers close to 300 square miles over seven towns making it difficult to manage, move children, and balance classroom size.

The far side of Groton is more than an hour drive from the other schools. Our three towns included here lie North and border Plymouth and Dorchester/Rumney.

The Plymouth school district runs fully on the K to 8 model for these reasons of time and distance.

The other four towns in SAU 4 lie west to east along state route 104, from Danbury to New Hampton. This is a convenient break for consolidation of classes in one main elementary school....now under study by the District.

I hope you will vote in favor of this important legislation.

To Whom it May Concern:

Please support the bill, **HB 349**, to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School resulting in a K-8 academic facility. This will allow for the expansion of the HB school into its own SAU. The building that currently exists was built with an option to expand beyond an elementary school, therefore location and facilities will not be an issue. With an excellent track record of educating on the elementary school level, we wish to expand the academic excellence to our middle school students. Support of this bill will allow us to further explore the potentials and possibilities for success.

The Bridgewater-Hebron Village School's education performance is outstanding and ranked among the top K-5 schools in the state. It is consistently performing in the top 20th percentile in the state for math and English. Reconfiguring to a K-8 allows us to continue our proven high academic standards with a coherent curriculum, effective instruction, strong leadership, results-based accountability, and sound discipline through the 8th grade.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Marjorie King  
Bridgewater, NH

Michael Capsalis

It's about time!

Harriett Kriebel

I support this bill.

John Erickson

I am a full-time resident of Bridgewater, NH. HB349 will help the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton achieve our vision of improved education outcomes for our children by establishing our own three-town school district and re-configuring the our existing Village District School to a K-8 model.



Robin Woods

I support this Bill to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.

Steven Woods

I support this Bill to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.

Ruthann Adamsky

I want our town of Bridgewater to have local say about our schools.

Jeff Bird

I support this 7-8 towns for a co-operative district is too-many.  
Its time too create a second district.

Stephen McDermod

I am in favor of HB 349

Peter Silbermann

I support the bill to give my town the opportunity evaluate ways to improve our school system.

Eleanor T. Gilpatric

This is for the benefit of our grandchildren and children of our neighbors and relatives, and friends.  
Thank you for supporting this bill #349

Bruce McPhee

To improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.



Robert Christopher Laux

I and many of my friends and fellow residents have been immersed in this subject for a few months now and feel we have a very accurate picture of our local school situation. This bill simply makes sense and should help insure the high standards and excellent results that we've experienced will continue.

Cynthia Hilson

The residents of Hebron need to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model. By reconfiguring the district school we will improve our children's education by creating smaller class sizes with more individual attention.

Scott Atephens

I am strongly in favor of the bill as a Hebron resident on a fixed income.please pass the bill.

Diane Roumeliotis

To improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School.

This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.

The fairest solution.

Chris Roumeliotis

To improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School.

This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.

The fairest solution.

Joan Basile

I support establishing a special purpose school district to support the towns of Hebron, Bridgewater and Groton.

Gerald Bowe

Bridgewater, Hebron (and hopefully Grafton) have done a great job at the Bridgewater school location. My wife as a teacher (retired) also supports adding the K-8 plan.

George Bolln

As a resident of Hebron, I enthusiastically support HB349 that would give the towns of Hebron, Bridgewater and Groton a 4 year window to thoroughly evaluate the option of setting up a separate district for establishing a K-8 school utilizing the excellent facilities that the towns of Hebron and Bridgewater have paid for over the past 25+ years..



Gina Rescigno

I am highly in favor of this bill. I feel it normalizes the Village Hebron school by establishing it as a SAU. I also feel it will better set the students up for the future.

Heather Wagler

I currently live in California as my husband is stationed at Camp Pendleton. We lived in Groton for a short period of time with plans to move back one day. I have two young boys ages 7 and 2 and feel this a great opportunity to better their future.

Bird Kathleen

This school district currently services seven towns plus Hill and this is just too many towns for one school district to work efficiently and effectively. It is time to separate the district.

Christina Reynolds

I am a resident of Bridgewater and am strongly opposed to this proposed bill (HB 349). Looking at this bill as a parent of school aged children, a public school teacher, and a taxpayer, I cannot find a reason to support such a change in our community.

Currently, children in Bridgewater attend our local elementary school and then enter Newfound Memorial Middle School for 6th through 8th grades. The middle school brings together adolescents from all 7 towns of the Newfound Area School District and provides them with an excellent education (frequently performing at our above state levels for proficiency!) Additionally, students are provided with opportunities to make connections with peers and staff members through numerous sports, clubs, programs and organizations.

All 3 of my children are in or have gone through the school district and have all benefitted from the educational opportunities the middle school provided them. Such a diverse and rich learning environment where students can grow as individuals and explore new interests would be hard to mimick in the school being proposed by this bill.

Financially speaking, Bridgewater residents currently get a very good deal for the educational experiences are children get considering we pay the Newfound School district based on the number of enrolled students we have, not the valuation of our town. Any other model aside from our current one would significantly increase the cost to our local taxpayers (a local committee just explored other funding formulas and could not determine a better arrangement).

It is my hope that you will think about all of the constituents and stakeholders that would be negatively impacted by this bill and stop this bill from progressing. I would instead recommend using your time and energy to address the educational "elephant in the room," which is New Hampshire's abysmal and inequitable funding of public education.

I will look forward to hearing how you will take my input into consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Christina Reynolds  
Bridgewater, NH

Ruth Millett

Since I've lived in Groton (2007), the Town has been taxed wildly by the Newfound School District. Our children have had less than stellar test results. I have seen the results from friends of mine whose three boys struggled through their years of attending all three Newfound school. We want to take more control of the education of our children.

Anita Latulippe

I approve this bill

Robert Ellis

Please pass this bill

John LaCarte

As a taxpayer for the town of Hebron, I support HB349.

Regards

John LaCarte



Lisa LaCarte

As a taxpayer for the town of Hebron, I support HB349.

Regards

Lisa LaCarte

Lawrence Goodman

Please support HB 249. Our district, like many others, needs to improve our kid's educational outcomes and this is a timely step in the right direction.

Timothy Finney

I support this bill to establish a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton and reconfigure the Village District School to a K-8 model.

Russell Coutu

The K-8 model will provide better education for the students!

James Van Schaick

For years, the Newfound Cooperative School District has underperformed, particularly at the very important Middle School level. This has resulted in students that reach the high school unprepared to do high-school-level work. HB349 will enable the communities of Hebron, Bridgewater, and Groton to have a high-quality K-8 program in their existing school, improving educational outcomes for our children.

Karl Braconier

My past experience as an Engineer with Freudenberg-NOK, a mathematics teacher at Beckett and substitute in public schools gives me real interest in support of this House Bill #349.

Ann Joyce

I am 100% in favor of improving the educational outcome of the children of this community.

Marion E. Weber

To maintain the best possible education for children in grades K-8.



John Rescigno

I feel this is the right thing to do for the students. It will create better stability for them as they will not have to change schools as often. They will only have to transition from elementary school to high school. Plus being a smaller SAU there will be more support from the residence ensuring the success of the students.

Roberta Flynn

I would like to urge legislators to support HB 349 to help us improve education outcomes for our children in Hebron with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School.

Kellie Braconier

Attending to learn more information and to support this bill, do not intend to speak.

Judith Faran

Please pass this for the sake of our children.

Dennis Cashman

I support HB 349 since this gives individual towns, the ability to more directly focus on the well-being of the children in regards to the quality of their education. The town of Bridgewater has already demonstrated their commitment to high-quality education and has consistently scored among some of the top percent in standardized Tess. The enactment of this bill will allow Bridgewater to further our ability to be more agile and continuing to ensure quality education.

Linda Cashman

I support HB 349 since this gives individual towns, the ability to more directly focus on the well-being of the children in regards to the quality of their education. The town of Bridgewater has already demonstrated their commitment to high-quality education and has consistently scored among some of the top percent in standardized tests. The enactment of this bill will allow Bridgewater to further our ability to be more agile and continuing to ensure quality education.

George Blaisdell

The town's of Bridgewater and Hebron, several years ago built, a modern elementary school at their own expense, maintain it at their own expense and have leased it to the SAU for a cost of \$1 a year since its inception. The academic results at the school have been excellent, well above state average. The majority of the students at the school come from other SAU communities. Those communities have attempted to change the funding contract agreed to when the school was built.in an effort to require the Newfound Lake abutting communities to pay a much higher amount of the SAU budget. I believe we should pay our fair share and no more. This bill will clarify. in a fair way, the reasonable educational costs for all current and future students, while increasing the academic results of the Bridgewater-Hebron Village students. I urge he bill's passage. Thank you.

GARVIN EASTMAN

I support the Bridgewater's vision to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton to achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model.



Eleanor Gilpatric

This is for the benefit of our future children and the present children wanting a great education were counting on your vote for house bill #349.

Thank you E. Theresa Gilpatric

Eric Jones

As small town residents we have the right to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional Middle School. This important legislation will help our three towns achieve our vision by establishing our own three-town school district and reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 mode

Richard JAMES

I believe that Education, much like government, is always most effective when it is closer to the people it serves. SAU 4 encompasses a huge geographical area and extremely diverse demographics, in many cases forcing hour-long bus rides to and from school and making after-school programs very difficult. A smaller school district will allow for a tighter and more cohesive student body and allow the curriculum to be better aligned with the requirements of the parents and students.

Ruth Gaffey

I strongly support this Bill which I believe will have a positive affect on the education of our children in Groton, Hebron, and Bridgewater. Please Pass This Bill

Sincerely,

Ruth Gaffey

92 North Groton Rd

Groton, NH 03241

Linda Wirth

The Hebron Bridgewater School District currently provides an excellent education and learning environment. Adding the middle school grades would be advantageous for the local children.

Richard Nagy

Wholeheartedly support the intent of this bill.

Mary Nagy

I support this bill.

Lindsay Hogan

I have one child who currently attends this wonderful elementary school, and I have another child who just moved on to the middle school. I believe the best option for the children of our town would be to have the school grow and become a k-8. Thank you



Ivan Quinchia

I ask for your support of HB349. The quality of education for the children in Bridgewater, Groton and Hebron is at stake.

Thank you for your service.

Shannon LaFreniere

This is a very important bill for the towns of Groton, Hebron and Bridgewater. Our communities are growing quickly and I think it is necessary for us to have the ability to explore different options for providing the best education possible.

Michael LaFreniere

I am a bus driver for Durham School Services and I can say that students spend a lot of time on the school bus! Over two hours a day for some kids! I don't think that is beneficial. We could reduce bus time in Groton, Hebron and Bridgewater by creating our own district where the kids are much closer to the schools.

Pam Civetti

I support this 100%

Jonathan Beliveau

I am voting in support of this bill to give residents more control of their child's educational needs.

Joyce Lahey

I support the bill to form a school district for Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton. Our desire is to provide our children with continued outstanding education opportunities while expanding the program through grade 8 at the Village school.

W Stephen McMahon

I believe that the K-8 format is best for the school children of our three towns. Please pass this bill so we can provide the best education for our children

Stacey Darlington

To ensure high quality education for children in rural areas of the state.



David Darlington

To enhance education opportunities within the local region.

Janet M Wallace

Our children's education needs to be the number one priority. This Bill 349 will ensure that the children's education remains our priory and their educational standing remain at the highest possible level to ensure that they enter high school with the best education available to the children.

Sandy Carter

There should have been input from the public in these 3 towns prior to this. We knew NOTHING. A very small k-8 school will not have the means to offer the students what they deserve. They would not be large enough to offer sports, a very, very important part of school amount other areas such as a band, language classes etc.

And right now they are a part of Newfound but will Newfound take them later? And at what cost? As a retired teacher in a larger k-8 school, mixing kindergartners and 8th graders is not beneficial. Perhaps the larger towns in the area should form another district.

Robert Wisniewski

I am in favor of the best quality education for the children of our town and believe this to be the best method.

Janet Wisniewski

As a family we want the best education for the children of our town. HB349 is the best choice.

Janice Barnard

My name is Janice Barnard and I am a resident of Hebron, NH and I support HB 349.

I feel strongly that reconfiguring the Village District School to a K-8 model is in the best interest of our students.

I am a retired paraprofessional from BHVS and can personally attest to the wonderful staff at BHVS. They are dedicated, compassionate and accommodating to meet each students needs. This is why our students are able to perform so well.

I am also a grandmother to a first grader. I am thrilled she has such a positive school community to attend and would love to think she would be in this caring, strong academic community through the eighth grade.

Thank you for this opportunity to share why I support HB 349.

Tony Albert

Better education for our students.

Christina Divelbiss

I am in favor of changing the Village District School to a K-8 model!

My children attended a K-8 school in Auburn and it was a terrific experience for them as well as for the town!



Peter Wirth

Hebron Bridgewater School has been doing an excellent job educating children as proven by the local satisfaction of both parents and students, as well as test scores. We feel it would be advantageous to our community to continue this local operation through the 8th grade.

Sharon Nelson

As residents of Groton New Hampshire, we are writing in favor of House Bill 349, establishing a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton.

The Bridgewater-Hebron village district was created by statute in 1997. That statute authorized those two towns to build the Bridgewater-Hebron village school, leased to the Newfound Area School District for \$1 per year when completed. This school cost taxpayers of Bridgewater and Hebron over \$8 million dollars in building and maintenance, but helped alleviate overcrowding in SAU 4.

Groton wants its children to continue utilizing the Bridgewater-Hebron school, where students now perform in the top 20th percentile in New Hampshire for math and English and in the future configured to K through 8. This configuration has been desired since 2013. The bill will give us four years to think through options. We urge house members to pass Bill 349.

Signed,

Stephen Spafford, son of a teacher

Sharon Nelson, retired teacher, master's degree

## Caleb Moores

I wish this was in place when I went to school. I graduated from Newfound last year and would have loved to have been in a K-8 model and would have loved to have been able to choose to go to Plymouth since it is closer for me and I worked in Plymouth during highschool.

Roger Larochelle

Our students prosper best from strong community support and engagement. The proposed District affords our children the greatest opportunity to become active learners and contributors to society.

Camille Bharucha

We want to support the best education for our children and support the creation of a K through 8 school.

Parker Griffin

I support this bill because I want our kids to have the same high quality of education which our school has always provided in a K-8 format.

Donna Eibye

No file selected

Susan Lovett Delaney

This bill is in the best interests of the towns but more importantly the children.



Joe Wilkas

We're having good results from our K1-5 Bridgewater-Hebron educational system, but then ~poor results from the following SAU4 middle school. The towns North of us, in the Plymouth Ed System, are having good results using their K1-8 systems incorporating the middle school grades. HB-349 proposes to let us review the prospect of expanding our K1-5 system to a K1-8 system and, if that approach appears that it would provide better results, then allows us to vote on implementing it to benefit our students,

Virginia Parker

This legislation will empower the citizens of Groton, Hebron, and Bridgewater to make educational decisions for their pupils at a local level.

Rather than requiring us to leave SAU 4, this bill allows each town to seek consensus from their own voters. As a current Supervisor of the Checklist in the town of Groton, I am glad to share that recent elections have brought upwards of 80% of registered voters to our town hall. This dedicated group of voters deserves the opportunity that this bill affords.

Mary Ellen O'Connor

I support this bill, it will have a positive impact for our town.

Rachel VanDuzer

Dear House Education Committee,

I am a constituent from Hebron, NH and I would like to voice my support of House Bill 349. We had considered sending our young children to the Bridgewater-Hebron Village school because they have a good reputation and strong academic outcomes, however we decided to try another option first. The Bridgewater-Hebron elementary school is still a possible consideration for our family if educational needs change, but we would not consider sending our children to Newfound Memorial Middle School or Newfound Regional High School due to poor academic outcomes and negative influences. We would, however, consider a small, alternative middle school with more positive educational outcomes such as what is proposed at the Bridgewater Hebron Village School K-8 expansion. I am not alone in this desire. Residents eligible to attend Bridgewater Hebron Village School overwhelmingly express discontent with the current options after children reach 6th grade. Many families discuss moving, or find other options when children reach middle school age. It's time to offer our children something different, something better and to retain more families in our community. Please vote to support House Bill 349.

Sincerely,

Rachel VanDuzer

Donna Arena

I support House Bill 349 to establish a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton and reconfigure the Village District School to a K-8 model

STACIE Barnard

I'm a mother of a daughter that attends Bridgewater Hebron Village School my husband and myself are in favor of this bill.

Thank you

**Good Morning.**

**My name is Sara Smith, I'm a Groton Resident, I work for the Town of Groton but more importantly I'm here as a parent. I am here to fully support House Bill 349 for many reasons.**

**My son Caleb attended Bridgewater-Hebron Village School (BHVS), Newfound Memorial Middle School, Newfound Regional High School and graduated from there in 2022. Prior to attending the Newfound Area School District, we lived about 45 minutes south and attended the school district in the town we were living in. We liked that school district for elementary school but had some concerns because the upper grade levels were experiencing difficulties receiving accreditation.**

**As a parent wanting my child to receive the best education he can, this was a huge concern for me. Life happened and we found ourselves living in Groton and I transferred Caleb out of his current elementary school to Bridgewater Hebron Village School. As with any transfer we had concerns. Concerns about the education he would receive, how the teachers would be, making new friends and feeling supported.**

**It didn't take long at Bridgewater Hebron Village School to relieve us of these concerns, especially the concern about him receiving the best education he can. This is where Caleb received the best education, where he felt most comfortable, where he made some of his best friends and felt the most supported by our incredible teachers and staff.**

**One of the main reasons I support this bill is that, as I did with Caleb, I want all students to receive a better education. I feel Caleb would have benefited even more from staying at Bridgewater Hebron Village School longer. K-8 models have been proven to be beneficial and have many advantages. Currently, our students leave the Bridgewater Hebron Village School after 5<sup>th</sup> grade and attend the Middle School from 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade. A K-8 model would eliminate the transition and allow them to stay where they are comfortable for a few more years. The age that they attend middle school is an awkward time for these kids. Physically, mentally and emotionally they are going through so many changes.**

**When they leave Bridgewater-Hebron Village School they are transitioning from being the older students at the school to the younger students at the middle school. All of this can be very tough on all kids and can lead to challenges while they are in middle school.**

**We live in a rural community and Bridgewater Hebron Village School is closer to our town than the Middle School and High School is. Our Groton students are on the bus for about an hour to the middle school and longer to the High School. This is too long for kids age K-8 to be on a bus. Creating K-8 this would eliminate that extra time on the bus. Then when they are older and going to the high school, they will be able to better handle the longer ride.**

**Caleb would have benefited from being able to choose which High School he attended. There are high schools that are closer to Groton. In high school, our kids get their licenses which is a very scary time for parents. Where we live, the weather is also a concern. If we were able to choose the high school he attended, we would have been able to choose one that was closer with less travel time for him, spending less gas money, and less time worrying during bad weather. Caleb doesn't play sports but he jumped into the work force quickly. He would travel from school to work each day. If he could have chosen a high school close to where he works, it would have been more convenient and saved money on travel.**

I no longer have children in school but I am still advocating for all of the other children. We had an amazing experience at Bridgewater Hebron Village School and I wish the K-8 model was in effect when Caleb was in school.

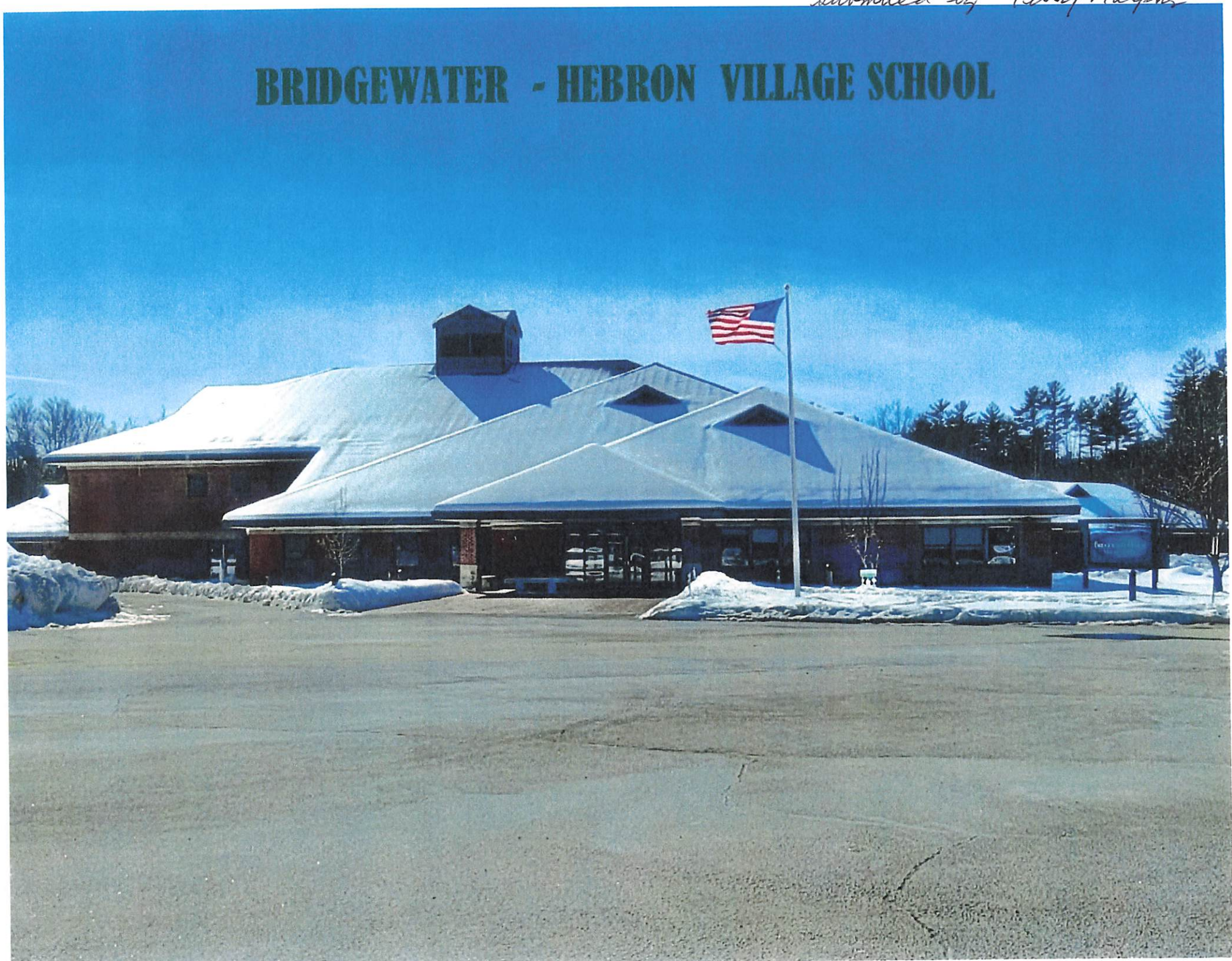
Thank you for listening and I respectfully urge you to pass this bill so that all of our students can receive the best education they deserve.

Sara Smith



*submitted by Terry Murphy*

# BRIDGEWATER - HEBRON VILLAGE SCHOOL



## Testimony – Terry Murphy

### INTRODUCTION

Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Committee Members.

My name is Terry Murphy and I enthusiastically support HB349 bill. Supporting me in this process is Selectmen Maurice Jenness and Wesley Morrill

I'm a Select Board member from the town of Bridgewater serving since 1977. I'm also a Commissioner on the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District Commission since its inception in 1999..

I was a faculty member of Plymouth State University for 45 years and, in its outreach programs over 10 years, assisting the Pemi-Baker School District for its financial and student management systems. In full disclosure, my spouse is Virginia Barry, the former NH Commissioner of Education.

### BACKGROUND

The Bridgewater-Hebron Village District is a separate political subdivision created by statute in 1997 and is comprised of the Towns of Bridgewater and Hebron. This statute authorized both Towns to build and operate the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School (B-HVS). Three elected Commissioners oversee the school facility and grounds.

The Village District continues to own, debt-free, the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School building, surrounding athletic fields, and furnishings. [PHOTO] It leases the school to the Newfound Area School District (for \$1.00 per year. Teachers, staff, and curriculum management are provided by the Newfound Area School District.

The school was built to alleviate overcrowding in SAU4 at a multimillion-dollar cost to the taxpayers of Bridgewater and Hebron in 1999. Since then, Bridgewater and Hebron are responsible for **maintenance, repair, and capital improvements**. Bridgewater and Hebron students have been a minority among students enrolled in the school. Children from other towns have always been welcome to attend.

### VISION AND GOAL

This bill is designed to **expand on our legal status as a Village District** and explore, **over a four-year period**, the establishment of a three-town special purpose school

district. This is a multi-step process and the first step is to hold a vote in Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton to determine if our citizens want to establish a K-8 SAU.

**Our vision** is to improve education outcomes for our children with an innovative alternative to a traditional middle school. **Our goal** is to reconfigure the Village School to a K-8. Studies have shown the fewer number of transitions children make before High School the greater the improved student performance. In fact, all seven towns in Pemi-Baker's SAU48 use the K-8 model.

Hill, NH also formed a separate School District after withdrawing from the Franklin School District. They operate their own elementary school and tuition into the Newfound Area School District for grades 7-12.

### **EXPANDING OUR SUCCESSFUL EDUCATION MODEL**

The Bridgewater-Hebron Village School's education performance and is consistently performing in the top 20th percentile in the State for Math and English. Reconfiguring to a K-8 allows us to continue our proven high academic standards with a coherent curriculum, effective instruction, strong leadership, results-based accountability, and sound discipline through the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. It would allow more effective local control, better manage educational costs, and give parents an innovative alternative to traditional middle school.

### **WHY NOW?**

Today parents are becoming more engaged in educational outcomes for their children. There's a growing trend toward alternative education options. And **in our local case, a trend toward the public K-8 model.** Given this climate, **the bill gives us the authority and the time to thoughtfully think this through.**

### **WAY AHEAD**

We would seek to stay closely aligned and work cooperatively with the Newfound Area School District to support quality education for our children. We would support space-based reciprocal enrollment for grades K through 8. By inviting students from other towns to attend, we would offer parents a choice between a traditional middle school and a K-8 program. We would seek a cooperative relationship.

This bill gives us an option to create our own district and reconfigure to a K-8. We have 4 years to research and determine if this is the best choice for our towns and our children before the authority in the bill expires. In the end, our voters will decide.

HB 349 provides a narrow, singular fix that would re-align us with the state's public education model. This bill is a turnkey solution. And our final education plan must be approved by the Board of Education.

Finally, we as citizens have a responsibility to provide for our children's public education. This bill provides that opportunity.

Thank you.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of House Bill 349. My name is Derry Riddle. I'm a resident of Hebron. I've been an elected commissioner of the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District since its inception about 25 years ago, where I've had the privilege of being part of the construction and management of the facility of our local Bridgewater-Hebron Village School. I was the first president of the parent teacher community organization and have volunteered in various capacities at this school plus others throughout the Newfound Area School District. One of my sons attended the Bridgewater-Hebron school and recently my grandsons have been students there, where they've thrived in a nurturing atmosphere supported by caring teachers, staff, parents, and community members. I've been on numerous committees addressing public kindergarten, technology, the vision and mission of the school district, the greenhouse at our school, and the building and facilities needs of the Newfound Area schools.

With your support of House Bill 349, we have a unique and exciting opportunity to create a positive K-8 learning environment for our local students.

Mr. Chairman, May I please use my remaining time to read into the record a letter from the former NH Education Commissioner, Virginia Barry, who was unable to attend today?

February 6, 2023

Dear Chairman Ladd,

I strongly support the establishment of a special-purpose school district as proposed by the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. As the former Commissioner of Education for the State of New Hampshire (2009-2017), I had the pleasure of visiting many excellent schools in our state. The State of New Hampshire has much to be proud of with its continued ranking in the nation's top five states for educational success. As Commissioner, I was often asked to explain our success to the public. Of course, we have many outstanding teachers and leaders committed to our children, families, and communities. However, there is another critical factor in our state's national achievements. The movement of school choice options available to nearly 320,000 children through bi-partisan leadership has helped define our state as one that supports parent choice. New Hampshire currently is one of the only states that support traditional public schools, public charter schools, public magnet schools, private schools, online academies, and homeschooling. All these choices are available to families to choose what is in the best interest of their child's needs, family values, and sustainable communities.

New Hampshire places great value on our small towns and their role in the stability critical to the economic health of our state. Citizens of New Hampshire have a voice, whether it's water quality, access to nature, housing choices, transportation, and many other components of infrastructure. Our residents know that our governmental structure cares what they have to say. The heart of our great state remains focused on our communities and their needs, including recognizing that times have changed. Our small towns' safety, vibrancy, and sustainability should remain a commitment in our governing structure. Recognition of the changing times refers to helping towns meet the community's educational, health, and safety needs. The towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton have demonstrated their deep devotion to quality education and the desire to have a school that reflects an understanding of the importance of family values in their schools. A sense of pride and conservation of small-town togetherness in daily life. The school these community members envision is another example of choice in our state, with a serious commitment to a "sense" of the future and everyday safety and fellowship so needed in our society.

This perseverance is especially evident when in 1999, the communities of Bridgewater and Hebron joined to construct a modern school building open to all towns in the Newfound Area School District. The building was separate from their existing cooperative school district obligations, and since 2000 the towns leased the facility to the school district for \$1.00 per year. The maintenance and building upgrade costs are the sole responsibilities of the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District. Concurrently, the facility is open to many local agencies for community activities to support extracurricular sports and boys' and girls' community clubs. The school

presently houses a Pre-K, full-day kindergarten program, and first through fifth grades. Children from other towns in the cooperative school district currently constitute 55% of the Bridgewater-Hebron school enrollment. The proposed legislation will not impact other community's enrollment if the K-8 expansion is approved. Fiscal constraints in the SAU4 prevent the adoption of this enhanced program configuration.

Recent research focusing on Pre-K and K-8 school configuration has continued to grow, focusing on the importance of children's social-emotional (SEL) needs in our current society. Intuitive leaders in our state might consider looking at the multiple benefits for K-8 students in the same school setting. The benefits include improved student social-emotional skills, positive attitudes about self and others, connection to school and town, academic performance, and reduced conduct problems and emotional distress. It's hard to imagine the minds of children when bombarded with social media focused on violence every day throughout our country. A school with community support and a belief that citizens "own" the school with an intense commitment to success and a healthy mindset is the best we can offer our children.

The proposal seeks to promote a community K-8 school to enhance learning and social-emotional competence based on the three towns' choices to support these critical years of development. The K-8 structure provides a positive learning environment that promotes trust, initiative, and autonomy. A K-8 school program has proven to improve academic performance and greater community involvement when parent choice is acknowledged.

In closing, this proposal supports the spirit of New Hampshire's history, encouraging choice, community connectedness, and success for all citizens. I urge the House Education Committee to consider this forward-thinking proposal. The potential outcomes of success for the students and recognition of the people's desire to protect and educate their children only strengthen our state.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts on this worthy proposal. Despite the challenges facing our nation, I believe that New Hampshire will continue to lead the country in educational success and promote and safeguard our children and communities.

Respectfully submitted,

*Virginia M. Barry*

Virginia M. Barry, Ph.D.

Good morning Mr. chairman and committee members.

My name is John Rescigno, I'm the Chair of the Selectboard for the town of Groton. I'm here to speak enthusiastically in support of this bill.

With me is my fellow Selectman Tony Albert. Together we represent and serve 569 Groton citizens.

Groton is a small, tight-knit rural community spanning over 40 square miles at the extreme northern end of the 7-Town, Newfound Area School District.

We're situated between Rumney and Hebron and just about equidistant from the two large school districts headquartered in Plymouth and Bristol.

We have 48 students enrolled in the Newfound Area School District's K-12 system.

22 of those children attend the exceptional K-5 Bridgewater-Hebron Village School.

The Village School education performance is outstanding and ranked among the top K-5 schools in the state. The teachers and staff are excellent, and our kids thrive in the school. Parent involvement is high there and across the system.

Our kids and parents love this school.



I am very excited about this bill as I feel it will set our children up for continued success.

As a father myself I understand the importance of stability in the education system.

And in our case, smaller might be better.

Establishing a three-town school district and reconfiguring to a K-8 will allow for:

- more effective local control.
- a stronger link between parents and the school system.
- less transitions for the kids.
- and expand the Village School's successful, proven education model for an additional three years through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Our parents are becoming more involved in education outcomes for their children. And as you know, there's a growing trend toward public education alternatives. In our case, the trend toward the public K-8 model.

Smaller might also be better. We're situated at the far edge of the larger school district. And our kids spend several hours on the school bus each day as they ride past the Village School on their way to and from the Middle School in Bristol. Establishing a three-town school district and reconfiguring to a K-8 will help alleviate this challenge for our kids.

I also support this bill because it gives us 4 years to thoroughly engage our citizens to thoughtfully think through a reconfiguration.

I take seriously our responsibility to provide for our children's public education. This bill is a unique, and innovative opportunity to do just that.

Thank you for listening.

**THOMAS S. CURREN**

**679 DICK BROWN ROAD  
BRIDGEWATER NH 03222**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 349  
February 10, 2023**

Honorable members of the committee and fellow-citizens, thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony today. My name is Thomas Curren, I am a resident of Bridgewater, New Hampshire, and I wish to testify enthusiastically in support of House Bill 349, an act to support a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. In 1972 I began working as a guidance professional assigned by the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Mental Health Center to work in the Mascoma School District, and then went on to be the Family Treatment Specialist at Spaulding Youth Center in Tilton. In those roles, I worked extensively in schools and homes with parents of special needs children. Later was appointed as vice-president of the Crotched Mountain Foundation, where my responsibilities included both admissions and discharge planning for students and their families in scores of districts throughout the state and region. I held that position for 8 years, after which I was asked to join the board of trustees of the organization. I have lived in the Newfound District since 1975, and my daughter graduated from Newfound Regional High School. In the late 1990s, I was elected to serve as a member of the Bridgewater Board of Selectmen that worked to create, gain approval for, and fund the Hebron-Bridgewater Village School District.

My support of HB 349 stems from my experience as a parent, an educator, a selectman, and most recently as a town moderator. As an education professional, I became aware of a number of difficulties confronting children throughout the state. The first were the challenges involved in unreasonably lengthy commutes that came to be measured in hours spent by children in busses. Additionally, as a parent, from a developmental standpoint I was concerned about exposing elementary aged children to troubling teenage social and behavioral patterns, the sort of burdensome dynamics that our youngsters are ill-prepared to handle. Finally, as an elected official, I have heard repeated expressions of frustration on the part of citizens who feel a lack of connection with far flung school districts. When I wrote the town history of Bridgewater in 1987, old-timers spoke of the deep sense of loss that occurred when local children were removed from their neighborhoods.

In my estimation, a basic duty of rural education is to assure that the legitimate organizational needs of large districts do not override the core mission of providing a nurturing love of learning in children at a local, human level. It was for that reason, including the prospect of increased volunteer involvement in a local school, that we put forth the effort to create the Hebron-Bridgewater Village District more than two decades ago.

The results in the ensuing years have proven out the hoped-for strengths of this local, logical approach. Children, parents, and educators have consistently expressed their satisfaction and their pride in this model, and test scores have borne this out over the years. Focusing developmentally on the needs of younger children is a major strength of the K-6th elementary model. The Village District is a sensible, tradition-based innovation that we feel has amply earned the support of this enabling legislation. Thank you for your consideration.

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February 6, 2023

Terry Murphy, Selectman  
Bridgewater-Hebron Village District  
c/o Town of Bridgewater  
297 Mayhew Turnpike  
Bridgewater, NH 03222

**Re: House Bill 349: An Act Relative to a Special Purpose School District for  
Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton**

Dear Mr. Murphy:

You asked us to review House Bill 349: An Act Relative to a Special Purpose School District for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton. In particular, you have asked us to opine whether the Bill constitutes a lawful act of the legislature. In our opinion, the answer is yes. We reach that opinion for the following reasons:

1. The legislature retains authority over the formation of public school districts.

New Hampshire is not a home rule state. [N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 49-B:1; Harriman v. City of Lebanon, 122 N.H. 477, 481 (1982).] Moreover, while school districts are a separate corporate entity, they serve as a subdivision of the state. [“School districts, like counties and towns, are political subdivisions of the state made for the convenient administration of the government.” Clough v. Osgood, 87 N.H. 444, 182 A. 169, 171 (1935), N.H. Rev. Stat. Ann. § 194:1..] As a result, the legislature has exercised its authority over the span of its history to create school districts through enabling legislation. In the past 30 years, the legislature has self-regulated that authority to create and establish school districts by voluntarily subordinating its authority to local control. In other words, the legislature has passed enabling legislation, but has made the adoption of such subject to the will of the citizens in the local towns, cities, or school districts. For example, recently the legislature adopted a Bill with regard to the Manchester School

District authorizing certain charter amendments and the establishment of further independence on the part of the School District. However, that legislation was contingent upon adoption by the local legislative body.

This Bill follows that model and if passed is a lawful exercise of the General Court's legislative authority, but with due deference to the local decision of the voters.

2. The Bill repairs a unique flaw in the cooperative withdrawal statutes.

In this case, the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District owns the school attended by the students in the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton area. This is a truly unique fact which deviates substantially from the norm. The adoption of this Bill provides a pathway for the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton towns to normalize the relationship with the Village District and create their own district which more aligns with the fact that the ownership of the building in which the children are educated reposes within the local municipality.

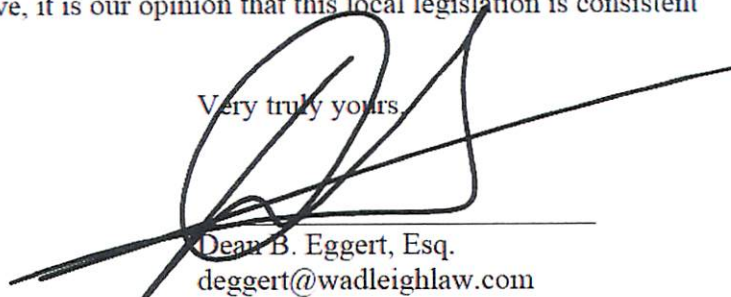
The general court is well aware of the challenges presented by the withdrawal provisions of cooperative school districts. While one can argue on either side of the issue in regard to the correct manner in which to approach withdrawal, on these facts, there is little or no doubt that the local act of the legislature will provide an opportunity to cure a model which deviates from the norm.

3. As a local act, this Bill does not modify the general provisions pertaining to other cooperative school districts.

At first blush, there may be reluctance on the part of some to adopt this Bill due to the fact that it creates a more nuanced withdrawal process. However, this Bill applies to a local situation where a separate municipality owns the building in which the children are educated, it is not capable of repetition and represents a truly unique set of facts.

For the reasons set forth above, it is our opinion that this local legislation is consistent with the legislature's authority.

Very truly yours,



Dean B. Eggert, Esq.  
deggert@wadleighlaw.com

DBE/

## Frequently Asked Questions about Hb349

### 1- What does this bill do?

This Bill authorizes the Towns of Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton to vote whether to form a special K through 12 school district. It addresses the unique circumstances arising from the fact that the elementary students from Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton are already educated in a school owned by the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District. This bill does not create a new school district, but instead allows the citizens to vote to create a school district. Upon an affirmative vote by the three towns, they will be withdrawn from the Newfound Area School District and the SAU and as of the established operating date, they will become a separate school district.

### 2- How does creation of the new school district take place?

The bill gives the three towns up to four (4) years in which to study and plan for the potential creation of a new school district known as the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District.

The Select Boards are authorized to appoint committees and to study and plan for the creation of the new district prior to bringing the matter to a vote. Upon a majority vote, and operating date shall be set for the new district. At a subsequent annual meeting the citizens will then adopt an operating budget, elect district officers and a school board. The District will commence to function as of its effective date of operation.

### 3- How will children be educated?

Elementary age child will continue to be educated in their local elementary school. Middle and high school children will be educated pursuant to negotiated tuition agreements, either with the Newfound Area School District or another School District, such as the Plymouth School District. In addition, the new district will have the prerogative to expand its facility to add middle school at the local village district school.

### 4. What are the benefits of the creation of this new school district?

The creation of this new school district will benefit the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton by providing local control over education. It will also relieve the towns and their taxpayers of the continued risk of inequitable apportionment of District operating costs. The new school district also presents revenue opportunities to the Newfound Area School District. If Newfound is willing to enter into a fair tuition agreement, it will have the benefit of a revenue stream that will allow it to move forward with its desired capital projects.

**5. What Problems does this bill solve?**

This bill ensures that elementary and potentially middle school education is both local and locally controlled. It allows for a greater local focus on educational quality.

By right-sizing the two resulting school districts it allows for an equitable apportionment of district operating costs in both districts. It potentially will strengthen the Newfound Area School District by allowing for tuition revenue as a potential offset to taxes incurred by the remaining towns.

**6. Does this bill mean that we are withdrawn from the Newfound Area School District?**

No. This bill authorizes a unique opportunity for the three towns to vote to create a school district. This is truly unique due to the fact that two of the three towns share a village district that owns the elementary school building. Whether or not the three towns decide to create the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District will require a majority vote in each of the three towns to create the school district.

**7. Won't this bill require that we hire new administrators?**

Not necessarily. Other school districts have successfully negotiated contracts with a neighboring SAU to provide superintendent services, and that is an option for the new school district. There is a significant likelihood that the cost of these services will be equal to or less than the current portion that the three towns pay toward the SAU budget.

**8. Will this bill be detrimental to the Newfound Area School District?**

No. In this case, the infrastructure for providing local elementary education is already in place, and that operational cost will be shifted from Newfound to the new district which will benefit from that infrastructure. If anything, the bill will generate new revenue for the remaining district by way of tuition agreements, while enhancing more local control for the Newfound Area School District as well.

**9. Is this bill detrimental to other cooperative school districts?**

No. This bill deals with a very unique set of facts where the students who comprise the District will be educated in a school that is already owned by two of the three towns through the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District. No other towns in New Hampshire have such a situation, and this bill does not apply to any other cooperative school district.



Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

My name is Patrick Moriarty. I've been Member of the Hebron Select Board for 10 years. I am here along with our other Select Board members Rich James and Paul Hazelton to represent the Town of Hebron in support of this bill

I grew up in a low income household as my Dad was a POW and disabled veteran

I lived in public housing and attended public schools. I am a strong advocate for public schools and consider that the education provided is critical to success of the students and to our state and nation.

My public education lead me to a scholarship to Northeastern University, where I graduated with honors. After my military service I completed a Master's Degree at Babson College.

For the past twenty years I have been a trustee for the Mayhew Program, an important non-profit serving disadvantaged youth in our state. I am now the Treasurer so work daily on youth development in our state.

The people of Hebron are aware of this proposed legislation and are in favor. The people of Bridgewater and Hebron paid for the school and maintain it on an annual basis. They take great pride in the school as an important part of our community. The school is our emergency shelter, our police protect it and visit for safety checks and run the bike safety programs. We alone provide these services as well as excellent athletic fields, without any outside financial support. The towns' people understand this proposal to establish our own school district and reconfigure to a K-8 model will require additional cost. And we fully intend to form a cooperative relationship with SAU 4 for high school, sports and activities.

Our goal is only to improve public education for our children, have more local control

Our current school district, SAU4, covers close to 300 square miles over seven towns making it difficult to manage, move children, and balance classroom size.

The far side of Groton is more than an hour drive from the other schools. Our three towns included here lie north and border Plymouth and Dorchester/Rumney.

The Plymouth school district runs fully on the K to 8 model for these reasons of time and distance.

The other four towns in SAU 4 lie west to east along state route 104, from Danbury to New Hampton. This is a convenient break for consolidation of classes in one main elementary school....now under study by the District.

Finally, our goal is to improve education outcomes for our children. This bill allows for greater local focus on education quality, and by establishing our own three town school district and reconfiguring to a K-8 it allows parent a choice between a traditional middle school and a K-8 program.

I hope you will vote in favor of this important legislation.

Thank you.

Testimony in support of HB 349  
Jennifer Larochelle, educator  
Friday, February 10, 2023

Honorable members of the committee thank you for listening to testimony today. My name is Jennifer Larochelle, and I am here to testify in support of House Bill 349. I graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a BA in Psychology followed by a Masters in Reading and Writing. I also have my Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study from New England College in Educational Leadership and taught for 25 years teaching in the Newfound Area School District. I am a resident of Hebron, and my son, Alex, attended the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School.

I am here today to speak for children and families. In my years in the classroom, I have seen tremendous changes in children, families, and society. The impact that comes with those changes has affected our children in ways that are sometimes visible and sometimes hidden. Even prior to the Pandemic, our children were struggling. The CDC reports from 2016-2020, 5.8 million students diagnosed with anxiety, and 2.7 million diagnosed with depression. Research suggests that the K-8 model is helping to combat the struggles our children face. Passage of House Bill 349 is critical to our vision for our children.

Sixth grade students are at a vulnerable time in their development. Think back, acne, awkwardness, hormones. Switching schools at this fragile time creates increased stress and anxiety at the best of times. As part of past transition teams, I can assure you that those students really do think they are going to be stuffed in lockers by older students. The K-8 model offers no such transition. Instead, children remain in a nurturing, familiar environment where they can continue to grow both academically and socially.

"Oh, you're a teacher. What do you teach? Middle School, you're a saint!" I have heard this too many times to count. Middle school doesn't have a great reputation. This reputation keeps a lot of parents away. The drop in parent involvement in education is dramatic when students enter middle school. Parents are an important part of their child's education. Purdue University writes, "A consistent body of research concludes that parents are the first and foremost influence on their children's development and school success. When parents are involved, students get better grades and score higher on standardized tests. What's more, children of involved parents have better attendance records, drop out less often, have higher aspirations, and more positive attitudes toward school and homework."

Fewer transitions for students and continued parental involvement indicate to me that the K-8 model is not only good for our children, but it is good for our families. That same familiar, nurturing environment that supports our students also supports our families. The Bridgewater Hebron School has a 20+ year history of providing strong educational opportunities for students and strong parental involvement. House Bill 349 grants us the opportunity to continue that tradition for our community and our families through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. I ask that you to help us guide our students by supporting this bill. Thank you.

*submitted by Rep. Foll*

**CHAPTER 320**

**HB 436-FN-LOCAL - FINAL VERSION**

12mar97....0460h

5/20/97 1383s

10june97.....0016 CofC

10june97....0064 EBA

**1997 SESSION**

97-0642

04/02

**HOUSE BILL 436-FN-LOCAL**

**AN ACT** establishing restrictions in building aid for conversions of area schools to cooperative school districts, increasing or decreasing grades in cooperative school districts, establishing a special village district for the towns of Bridgewater and Hebron, and relative to special reserve funds for the Exeter school district.

**SPONSORS:** Rep. McKinley, Straf 2; Rep. Champagne, Ches 19; Rep. Thulander, Hills 6; Sen. Rubens, Dist 5

**COMMITTEE:** Education

**AMENDED ANALYSIS**

**This bill:**

**I.** Establishes restrictions in building aid for conversions of area schools to cooperative school districts.

**II.** Provides that an increase or decrease in grades being offered by a cooperative school district may be accomplished by amending its arrangement or articles of agreement.

**III.** Allows the establishment of a special village district for the towns of Hebron and Bridgewater to construct, own, and maintain a public school facility.

**IV.** Authorizes the Exeter school district to create special funds to be used to offset taxpayers' share of the Exeter region cooperative school district's bond payments for a new middle level cooperative school building and the capital improvements to the Exeter region cooperative school district buildings. The bill ratifies votes taken at the 1997 Exeter school district meeting to establish and make appropriations to these funds and authorizes additional appropriations to, and withdrawals from, these funds.

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HB 349 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0279

10/08

HOUSE BILL           **349**

AN ACT               relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.

SPONSORS:         Rep. Ladd, Graf. 5; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 7; Sen. Innis, Dist 7; Sen. Ward, Dist 8

COMMITTEE:        Education

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ANALYSIS

This bill allows the establishment of a special purpose school district for the towns of Hebron, Bridgewater and Groton to form a new multi-town single school district.

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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.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three*

AN ACT relative to a special purpose school district for Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 Establishment of Special Purpose School District.

2 I. Having established by law in 1997 a special purpose village district to construct, own and  
3 maintain a public school facility; and having already built and owned outright with no debt the  
4 Bridgewater-Hebron Village School (K-5) whose maintenance and capital costs are paid for by the  
5 towns of Bridgewater and Hebron and overseen by 3 elected commissioners; and notwithstanding  
6 any other provision of law to the contrary, the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton are hereby  
7 authorized to withdraw from the Newfound Area School District and establish a public school  
8 district comprised of the geographical limits of the aforementioned 3 towns. Subsequent to  
9 formation, the school district shall operate in accordance with the provisions contained in RSA 194  
10 and except as modified herein, the laws pertaining to operating a newly formed cooperative school  
11 district as set forth in RSA 195 and operating school administrative units as set forth in RSA 194-C.  
12 The new district shall be named the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District, or  
13 such other name as is subsequently approved by the elected school board of the district. The  
14 creation of this new public school district shall be contingent upon a majority vote in each of the 3  
15 towns at their 2023 annual meeting, or such other annual meeting as is determined by the 3 towns  
16 under this act, adopting the provisions of this act; whereupon the effective operational date of this  
17 district shall be the first of July of the fiscal year subsequent to the adoption vote unless the annual  
18 meeting specifies a later fiscal year to be the effective operational date.

19 II. The state board of education shall issue a certificate of withdrawal from the Newfound  
20 Area School District after the initial vote by the towns to adopt the provisions of this act. A special  
21 meeting of the voters in the withdrawing district for the election of board members and officers shall  
22 be held at a time set by the state board of education after consultation with the selectmen of the 3  
23 towns. The warrant for this special meeting shall be proposed by the selectmen of the 3 towns,  
24 approved by the state board of education and signed by the commissioner of the department of  
25 education, shall provide for the election of officers in the newly created school district. The  
26 commissioner of education shall have authority to appoint such officers pro tem as may be necessary  
27 pending the district special meeting held to elect officers. In addition, the special meeting shall have  
28 the same power and authority as an annual meeting to raise and appropriate money, but it may  
29 defer the process of adopting a budget for the first operational fiscal year until the next annual  
30 meeting or such annual meeting as may be appropriate for adoption of a budget for the first  
31 operational fiscal year. The school district officers elected at said meeting shall take office and

**HB 349 - AS INTRODUCED**  
**- Page 2 -**

1 organize promptly such that they carry out the duties of their office and take any action necessary to  
2 carry out the provisions of this law. The initial board shall consist of 3 elected members, with one  
3 member from the town of Bridgewater, one member from the town of Hebron, one member from the  
4 town of Groton.. The initial term of the member from Bridgewater shall be for a 2-year term, with  
5 the other initial members and all subsequent members serving 3-year terms.

6 III. The elected school board for the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School  
7 District shall have the responsibility and authority granted to a school board of a cooperative school  
8 district. It shall have the responsibility to effectuate plans and policies for the ensuing operation of  
9 the district, hold the necessary budgetary hearings and if not adopted at the special meeting,  
10 propose the initial operating budget to the legislative body of the created district at an annual  
11 meeting of the district to be held in the same manner as an operating school district under RSA 195,  
12 RSA 197 and RSA 198 for adoption of an operating budget for the fiscal year commencing on the  
13 effective date of operation. This annual meeting shall have the same power and authority as the  
14 annual meeting of a fully operating school district including, but not limited to the raising or  
15 appropriating money for the ensuing fiscal year.

16 IV. The school district may rent or lease a facility from the Bridgewater-Hebron Village  
17 District and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, may, subject to any state design, safety, and  
18 space requirements, vote to expand the grades served by a school within the district up to twelfth  
19 grade. The Bridgewater-Hebron Village District shall give priority in any lease or rental agreement  
20 to the students within the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District. The school  
21 district may educate students in grades 9 and above outside the district pursuant to tuition  
22 agreements. The school district may make all other contracts necessary to carry out the purposes of  
23 a public school district, and may exercise any other power conferred upon single school districts  
24 under RSA 194:2, RSA 194:3 and any other applicable laws. The department of education shall work  
25 collaboratively with the new district to ensure that grant funds and adequacy aid are properly  
26 allocated to the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District.

27 V. On and after its establishment, the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School  
28 District shall be deemed to be a duly organized school district for purposes of its eligibility to apply  
29 for and receive all forms of aid, grants, and guarantees with respect to the school building including,  
30 but not limited to, school building aid under RSA 198 and the state guarantee of bonds or notes  
31 under RSA 195-C. The amount of school building aid shall be based on the calculations applicable to  
32 a cooperative school district comprised of the 3 towns. The operating costs and any capital outlay  
33 costs for the district shall be apportioned between the 3 towns in accordance with the following  
34 formula:

35 (a) One hundred percent of all such costs shall be apportioned on the basis of the  
36 average daily membership from each town for the preceding year; or

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1           (b) Such other formula as is recommended and proposed by the school, adopted by  
2 majority vote of the district meeting and approved by the state board of education.

3           VI. This act shall be construed to authorize such school district to staff and operate such  
4 school district, to otherwise provide public education to any pupil, to exercise any other power  
5 reserved to school districts. The district is granted such powers as are expressly stated in this act or  
6 necessary by implication to effectuate the purposes authorized by this section. In addition, the  
7 Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District shall seek to offer employment  
8 opportunities to the existing public school staff and faculty in the same manner as the pre-existing  
9 district. Further, the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District shall work closely  
10 with the Newfound Area School District to endeavor to continue its relationship as put forth in the  
11 existing contract between the Bridgewater-Hebron Village District and former district to offer  
12 parents school choice and to accommodate students already enrolled in the new district's school.

13           VII. Upon the adoption of this act by the 3 towns, the towns in the Bridgewater-Hebron-  
14 Groton Special Purpose School District shall be deemed to have effectuated withdrawal from the  
15 Newfound Area School District on July 1 of the calendar year one year subsequent to the date of the  
16 vote adopting this act unless the meeting specifies a later fiscal year to be effective operational date,  
17 subject to any obligations set forth in RSA 195:27. The newly formed school board may enter into  
18 long and short-term tuition agreements with the Newfound Area School District or any other public  
19 school district, public academy or school pursuant to RSA 193:3, VI for the education of those  
20 resident students in middle or high school who enroll in the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special  
21 Purpose School District and may also vote to build additions or a separate school. The term of office  
22 of the Newfound Area School District board members representing Bridgewater, Hebron and Groton  
23 shall terminate as of the July 1 effective operating date of the newly formed school district.

24           VIII. Notwithstanding the provisions of RSA 195:30 and RSA 194-C:2, the newly formed  
25 district shall be deemed to have withdrawn from School Administrative Unit Number 4, as of the  
26 specified effective operational date of the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School  
27 District, and shall be its own school administrative unit with a number assigned by the department  
28 of education and may provide for superintendent services in accord with those options available to  
29 single school districts, including contracting for such services. The unassigned fund balance of the  
30 SAU shall be allocated between the two districts as of June 30 immediately prior to the July 1,  
31 operating date in accord with the apportionment percentages of the Newfound Area School District  
32 budget for the prior fiscal year. The newly formed district may enter into agreements with  
33 Newfound Area School District regarding the disposition of school administrative unit assets and  
34 liabilities.

35           IX. The select boards of the towns of Bridgewater, Hebron, and Groton may appoint such  
36 committees and engage in such study as they deem appropriate in planning for the new district prior  
37 to the adoption vote. However, if the select boards of the 3 towns wish to proceed further with this



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1 legislation they shall within 4 years from the effective date of this act, warn the question of adoption  
2 of this act at an annual meeting of the legal voters residing in the towns to see if they will vote to  
3 adopt the provisions of this act and create the new school district. They shall call the meeting and  
4 give notice as town meetings are called and warned, excepting that the warrant shall be posted at 2  
5 or more public places in each of the towns comprising the proposed district.

6       2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.