

2024 Candidate Webinar Series



Tuesday, 8/13 at 12pm – NH Businesses for Social Responsibility

Thursday, 8/15 at 12pm – Disability Rights Center – NH

Tuesday, 8/20 at 12pm – NH Hunger Solutions

Thursday, 8/22 at 12pm – AARP

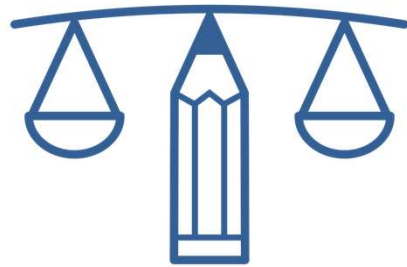
Tuesday, 8/27 at 12pm – NH Center for Justice and Equity

Thursday, 8/29 at *10am* – Housing Action NH

Tuesday, 9/3 at 12pm – MomsRising

Thursday, 9/5 at 12pm – Reaching Higher NH





NH SCHOOL

Funding Fairness Project

*Advocating to make
school funding more equitable
for students and taxpayers alike*



NH SCHOOL
Funding Fairness
Project

School Funding & Students with Disabilities

- During the 2022-2023 school year, 30,964 (19.67%) students received services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- State and Federal Governments only paid 17.47% of costs associated with IEPs in 2023, which was one percent less than in 2022.
- In 2023, 60 New Hampshire public school districts spent over 25% of their total expenditures on IEP related expenses.

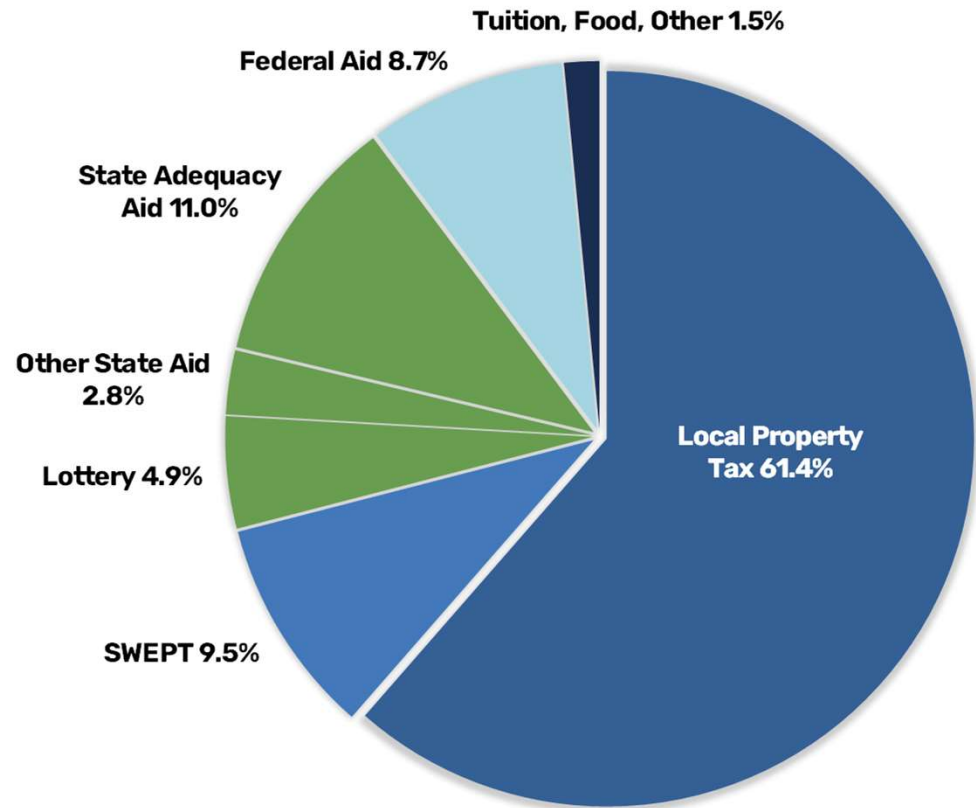
New Hampshire School Funding

NH Relies Overwhelmingly on Local Property Taxes to Fund Public Education

'22 - '23 Revenue Breakdown of NH School Districts

\$3.8B in Total Revenue

Federal Aid: 8.7%
State Revenue: 18.7%
Property Taxes: 70.9%



New Hampshire School Funding

NH Relies Overwhelmingly on Local Property Taxes to Fund Public Education

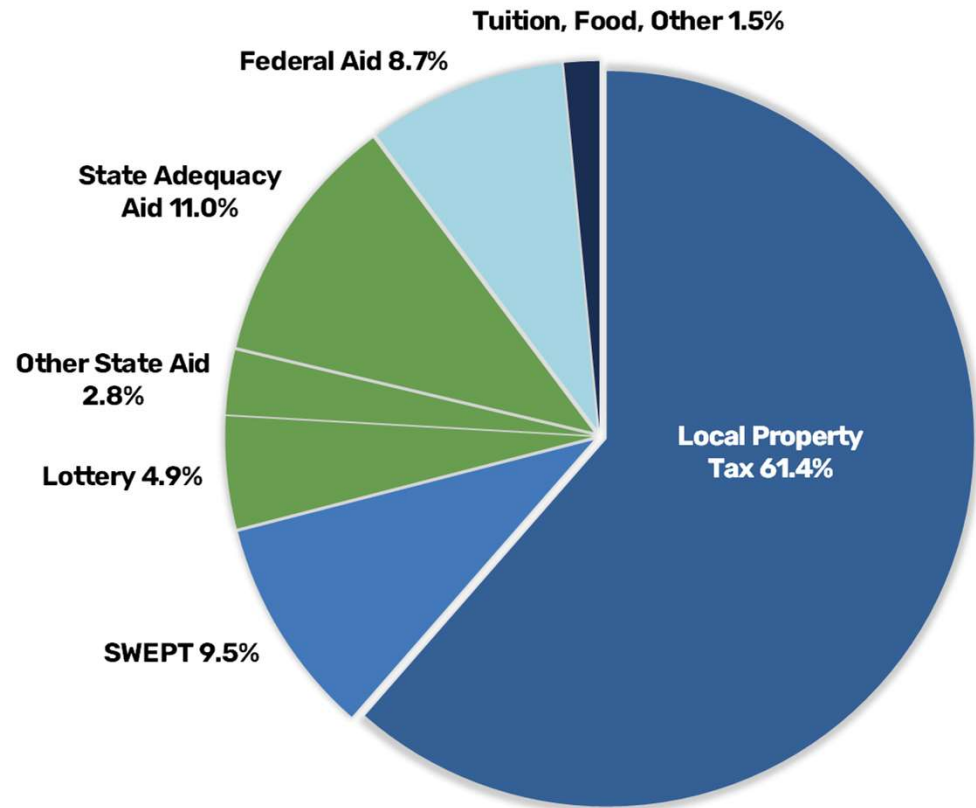
'22 - '23 Revenue Breakdown of NH School Districts

\$3.8B in Total Revenue

Property Taxes: 70.9%

=

**Almost \$2.7 Billion
Downshifted Annually**



New Hampshire School Funding – “Special Education Aid”

\$915 Million in Total Revenue for Special Education Services

“Special Education Differentiated Aid”:
\$61,904,967.57

+

“Special Education Aid”: \$33,917,001.85

+

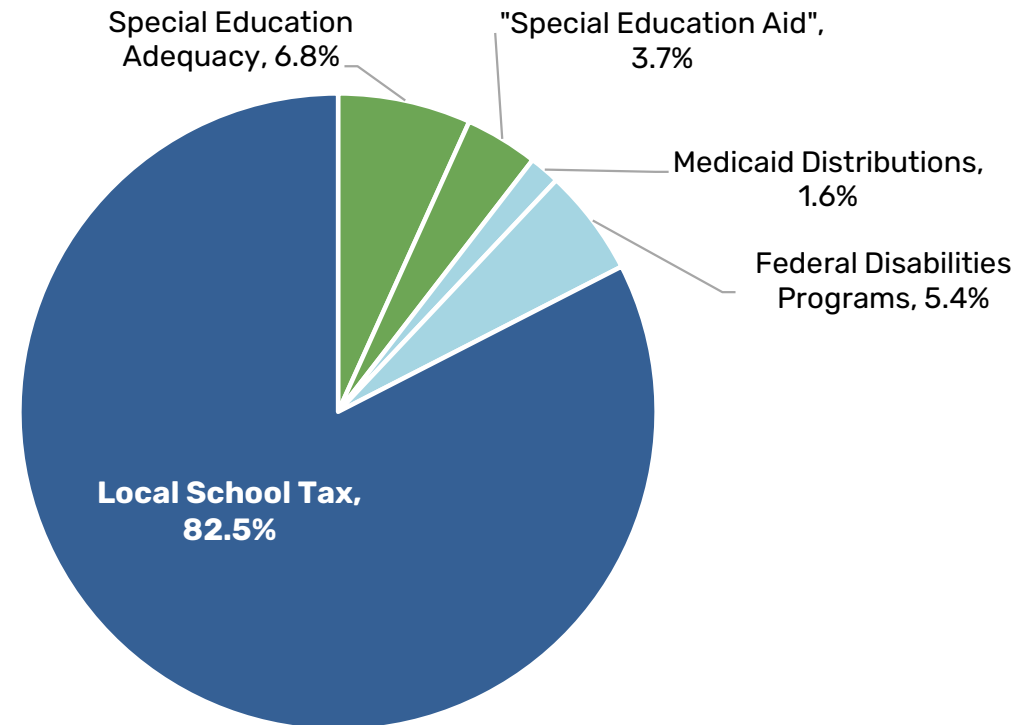
Federal Disabilities Programs:
\$49,801,204.96

+

Medicaid Distributions: \$14,230,188.48

=

\$755 Million Downshifted Annually



Calculating the Cost of an Adequate Education

Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

+ \$2,300

For each student eligible for free and reduced-priced meals

+ \$2,100

For each student receiving special education services

+ \$800

For each student who qualifies as an English Language Learner

= \$5,995

Average State Aid Per Student

Calculating the Cost of an Adequate Education

Every student receives **\$4,100** in 'Base Adequacy'

+ \$2,300

For each student eligible for free and reduced-priced meals

~~+ \$2,100~~ **\$3,094**

For each student receiving special education services

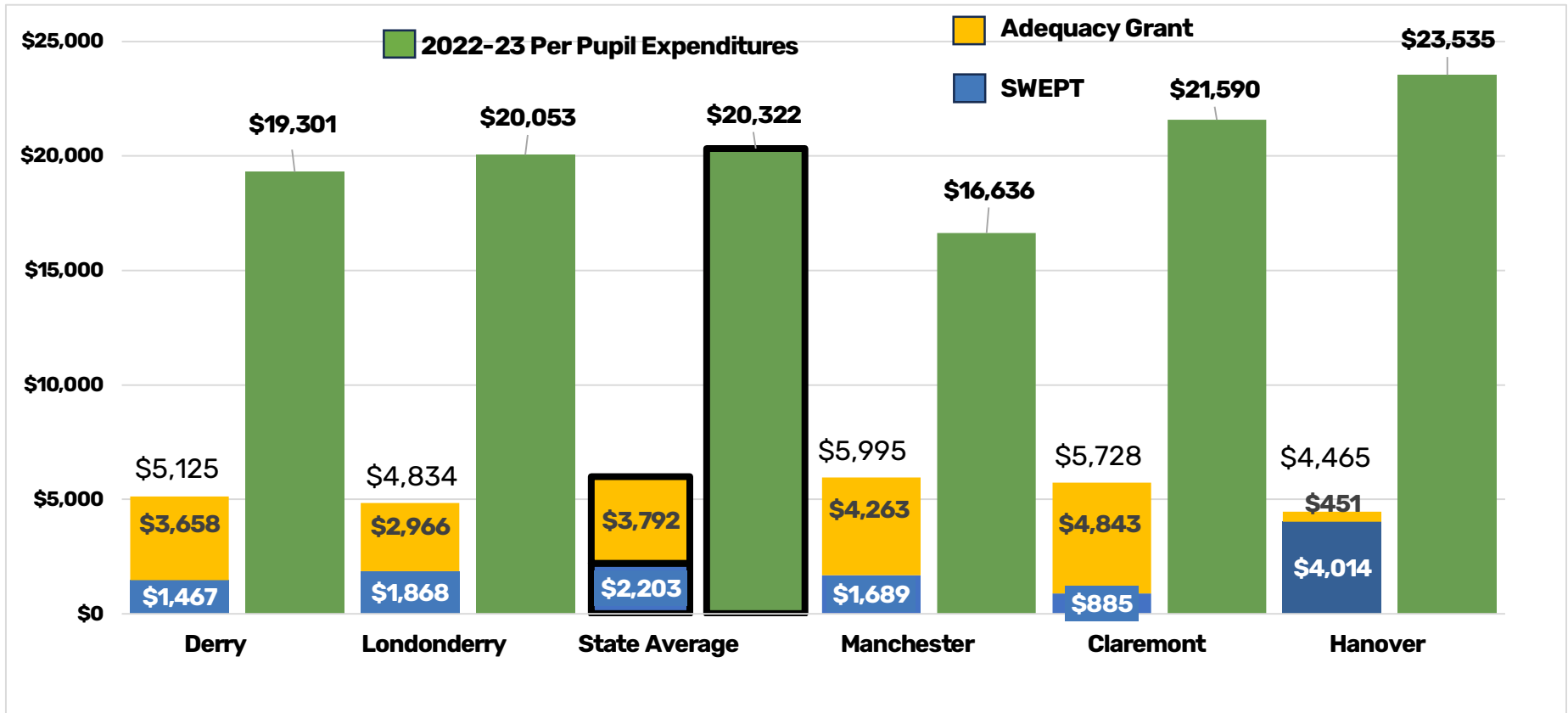
+ \$800

For each student who qualifies as an English Language Learner

= \$5,995

Average State Aid Per Student

Current State Adequacy Grants Fall Well Short of Actual Costs to Educate Children

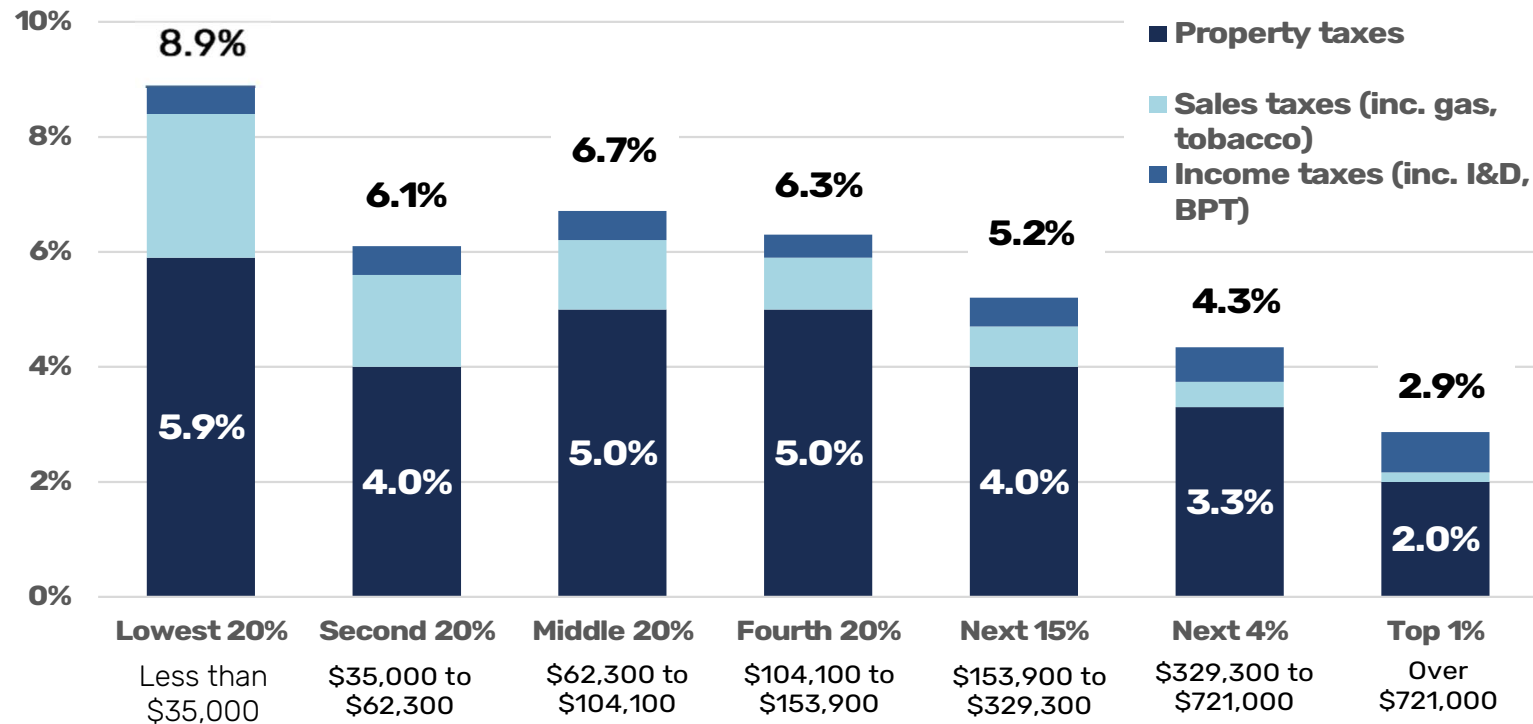


Which Districts Saw the Biggest Jump Between 2022 and 2023?

District Name	Costs 2021-22	Costs 2022-23	\$ Increase	% Increase
Washington	\$59,198.52	\$146,823.67	\$87,625.15	148.02%
Plainfield	\$985,535.65	\$2,147,600.38	\$1,162,064.73	117.91%
Sullivan	\$251,940.00	\$479,988.00	\$228,048.00	90.52%
Piermont	\$430,665.00	\$791,542.00	\$360,877.00	83.80%
Eaton	\$35,550.09	\$64,514.28	\$28,964.19	81.47%
Milan	\$540,110.18	\$930,367.13	\$390,256.95	72.26%
Stark	\$31,686.66	\$50,647.37	\$18,960.71	59.84%
Wentworth	\$560,334.05	\$821,006.85	\$260,672.80	46.52%
Jackson	\$174,725.47	\$252,997.57	\$78,272.10	44.80%
Warren	\$257,241.00	\$359,464.00	\$102,223.00	39.74%
Contoocook Valley	\$11,202,792.00	\$15,597,212.34	\$4,394,420.34	39.23%
Bethlehem	\$697,824.47	\$968,007.35	\$270,182.88	38.72%

Property Tax Reliance Adds to Regressivity of New Hampshire's Tax System

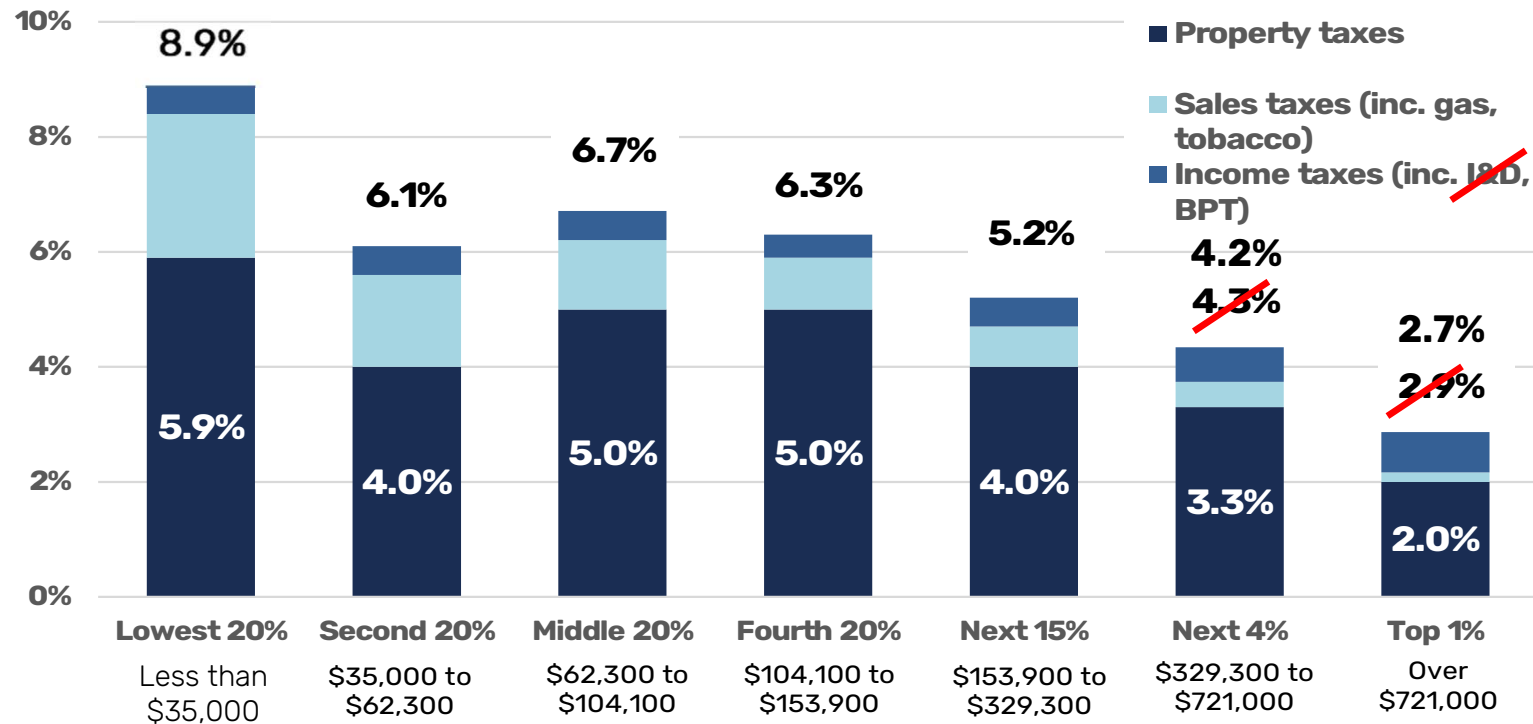
Taxes as a Share of Income, by Income Group, 2024



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

Property Tax Reliance Adds to Regressivity of New Hampshire's Tax System

Taxes as a Share of Income, by Income Group, 2024



Source: Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy

2024 Legislation - Funding Attempts

HB 1583 – increase base adequacy to \$10,000

HB 1656 – increase “special education differentiated aid” grant to \$27,000 per student. Roughly \$800 million shift from local property tax to State.

HB 1670 – state pays for all special education costs

HB 1586 – changes to adequacy formula, SWEPT, and property tax relief in line with Commission to Study School Funding recommendations

2024 Legislation - Funding Attempts

HB 1583

Amended: ~\$64M in FY24 & +\$34M in FY25
**uses estimated surplus in Education Trust Fund*

HB 1656

Amended: ~\$17M in FY 24

HB 1670

HB 1670—state pays for all special education costs-
Recommended to Interim Study in the House

HB 1586

~~**HB 1586**—changes to adequacy formula, SWEPT, and property tax relief in line with Commission to Study School Funding recommendations~~
Recommended to Interim Study in the House

2024 Legislation - Funding Attempts

HB 1583



~~**Amended:** ~\$64M in FY24 & +\$34M in FY25~~
Senate recommended to Interim Study.

HB 1656



~~**Amended:** ~\$17M in FY 24~~
Senate recommended to Interim Study

HB 1670



~~**HB 1670**—state pays for all special education costs-~~
Recommended to Interim Study in the House

HB 1586



~~**HB 1586**—changes to adequacy formula, SWEPT, and property tax relief in line with Commission to Study School Funding recommendations~~
Recommended to Interim Study in the House

Summary

- Neither taxpayers nor students are treated equitably or fairly.
- The problem is getting worse.
- About **\$2.7 Billion** is downshifted to local property tax payers each year.
- The current system is unconstitutional.
- The solution lies with state level lawmakers.