

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2023: EDUCATION POLICY TRENDS

Reaching Higher NH
January 18, 2023





All children deserve a high-quality, rigorous, and student-centered education that prepares them for college, careers, and life.

Reaching Higher NH provides decision makers, leaders, and communities with the research they need to make informed decisions to meet that promise.

GOVERNOR



CHRIS SUNUNU (R-NEWFIELDS)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL



JOSEPH KENNEY
DISTRICT 1



CINDE WARMINGTON
DISTRICT 2



JANET STEVENS
DISTRICT 3



TED GATSAS
DISTRICT 4



DAVE WHEELER
DISTRICT 5

STATE SENATE

14 Republicans / 10 Democrats

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

201 Republicans / 197 Democrats
2 vacancies

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

10 Republicans / 10 Democrats

Chair: Rick Ladd
Vice Chair: Glenn Cordelli
Clerk: Oliver Ford

Peggy Balboni ▪ Mike Belcher ▪ Corinne
Cascadden ▪ Patricia Cornell ▪ Hope Damon ▪
Margaret Drye ▪ Arthur Ellison ▪ Muriel Hall ▪
Alicia Lekas ▪ David Luneau ▪ Valerie
McDonnell ▪ Mel Myler ▪ Kristin Noble ▪ Katy
Peternel ▪ Arlene Quaratiello ▪ Linda Tanner ▪
Stephen Woodcock

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

3 Republicans / 2 Democrats

Chair: Ruth Ward
Vice Chair: Carrie Gendreau

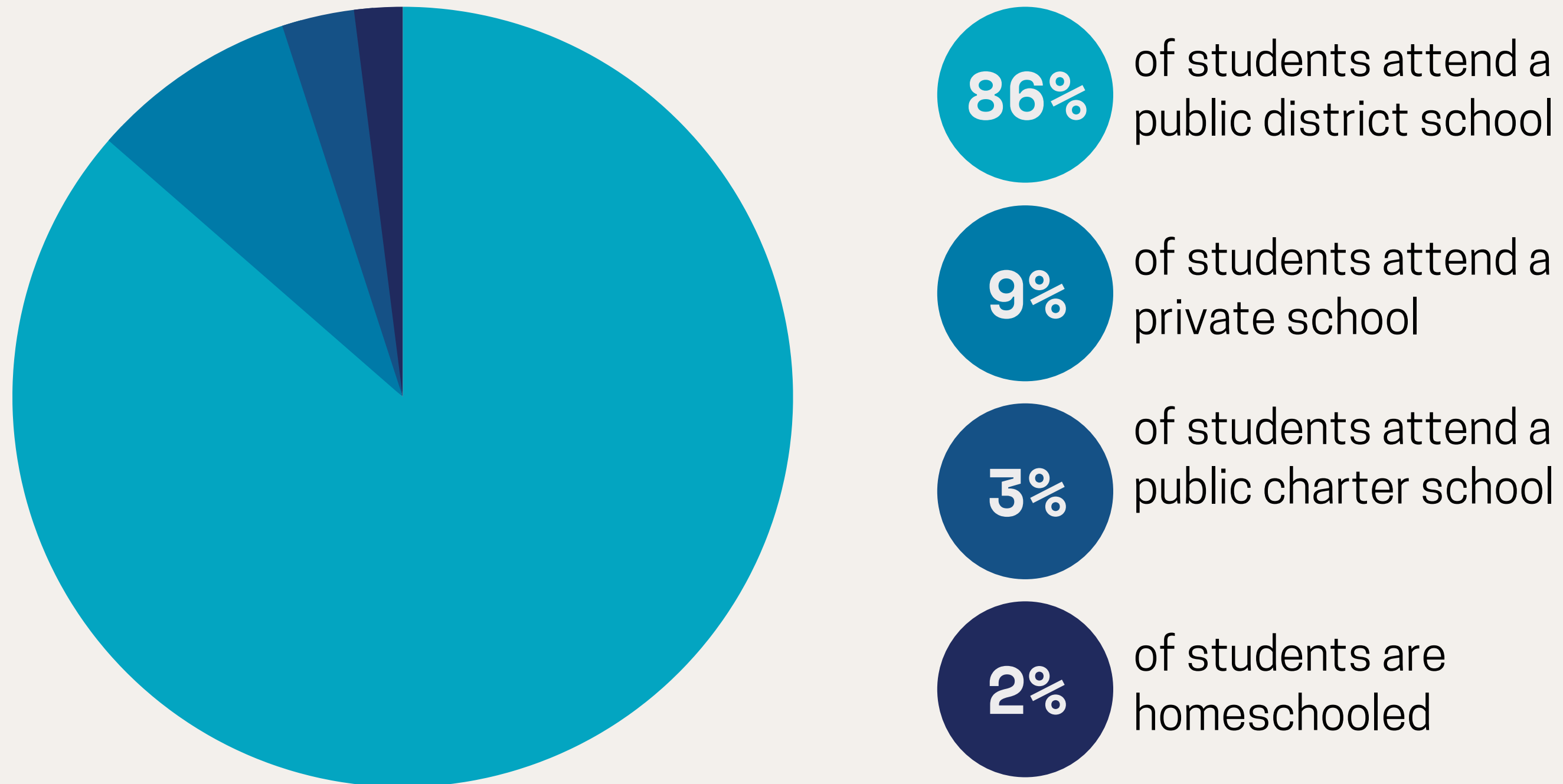
Donovan Fenton ▪ Timothy Lang ▪ Suzanne
Prentiss

THE STATE OF EDUCATION

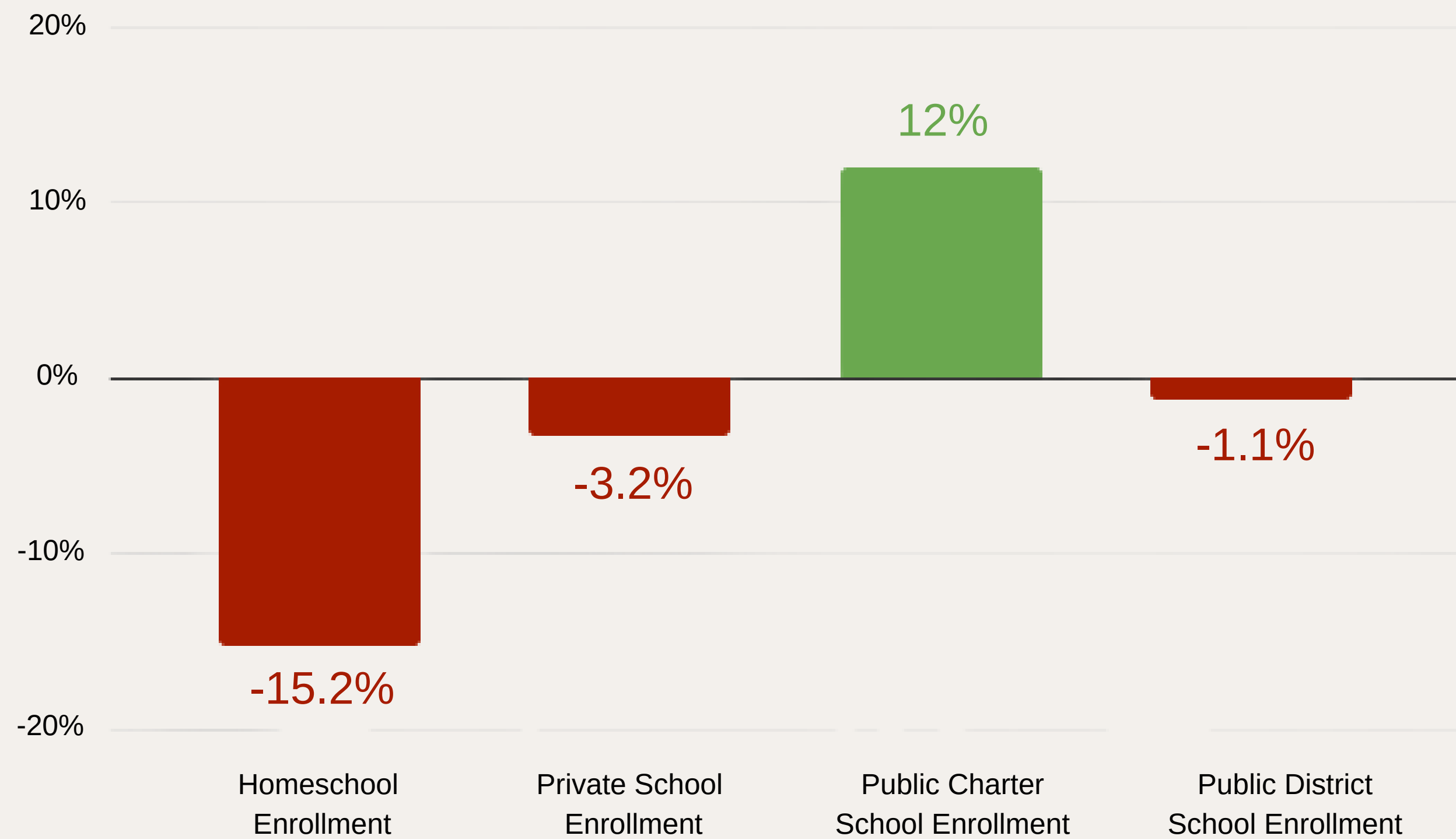
- Enrollment trends
- School funding
- Student needs



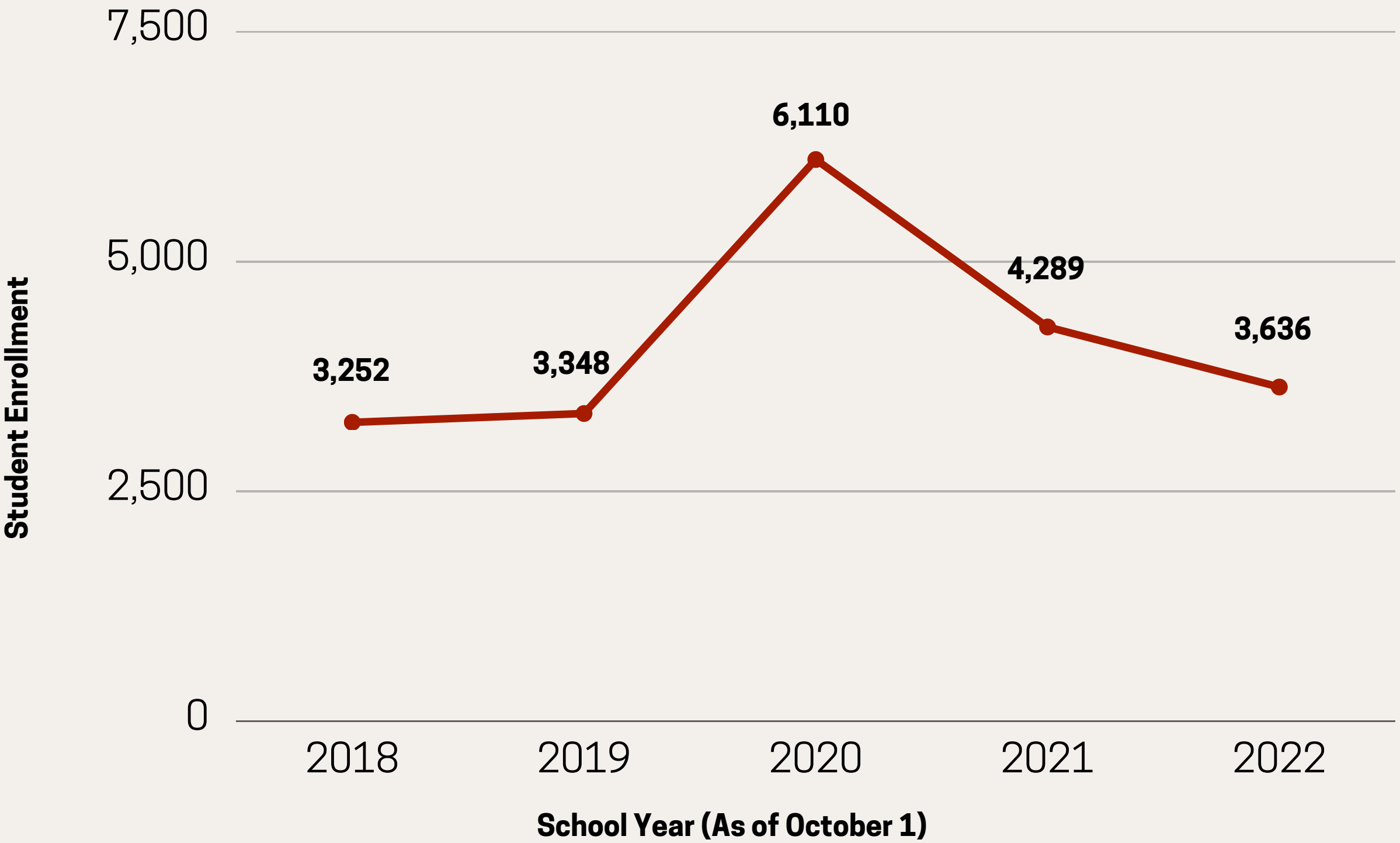
THE MAJORITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FAMILIES CHOOSE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THEIR CHILDREN



CHANGES IN STUDENT ENROLLMENT, 2021-2022



HOMESCHOOL ENROLLMENT HAS DROPPED 40% SINCE ITS PEAK IN 2020



Source: NH Department of Education

KEY THEMES IN ED POLICY THIS YEAR

- School funding
- School building aid
- Privatization & school vouchers
- School climate
- Strengthening & diversifying the educator workforce



IT'S A BUDGET YEAR



BUSINESS & ECONOMY

First Six Months of Fiscal 2023 Produce a \$200M Revenue Surplus for NH

By GARRY RAYNO, InDepthNH.org January 5, 2023

State

NEW HAMPSHIRE UNION LEADER

There's a long wish list for big state budget surplus

By Kevin Landrigan Union Leader Staff Jan 14, 2023 Updated Jan 15, 2023

CONCORD MONITOR

Politics > State-House

Balance is key as NH lawmakers head into budget year



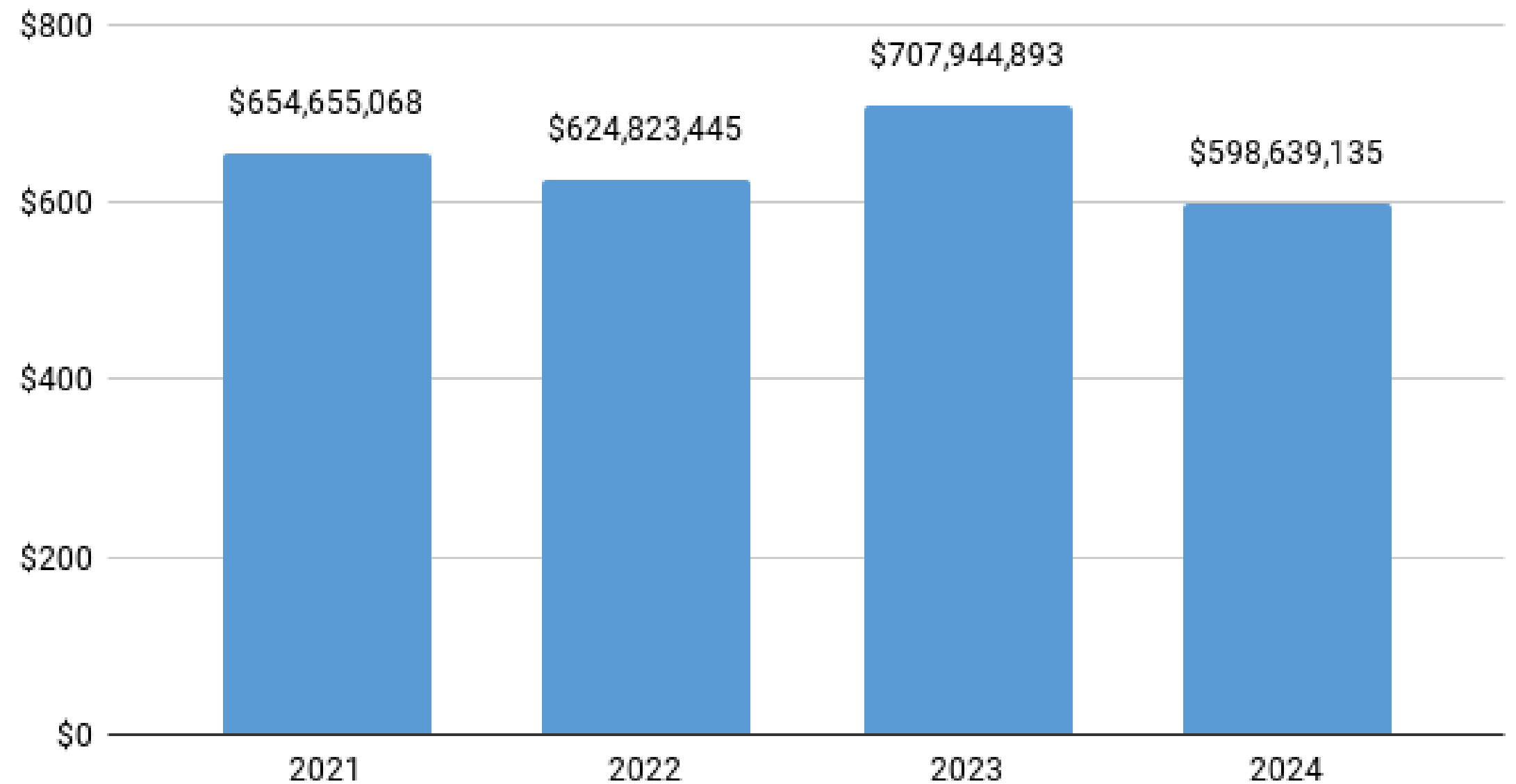
Members of the New Hampshire House listen to the national anthem before being sworn into office Dec. 7 in Concord, N.H. Republicans have a slim 201-198 advantage with one seat unsettled after a recount resulted in a tie. That race is headed to a special election. Holly Ramer / ap

By HOLLY RAMER
Associated Press

Published: 12/28/2022 4:36:42 PM
Modified: 12/28/2022 4:33:46 PM

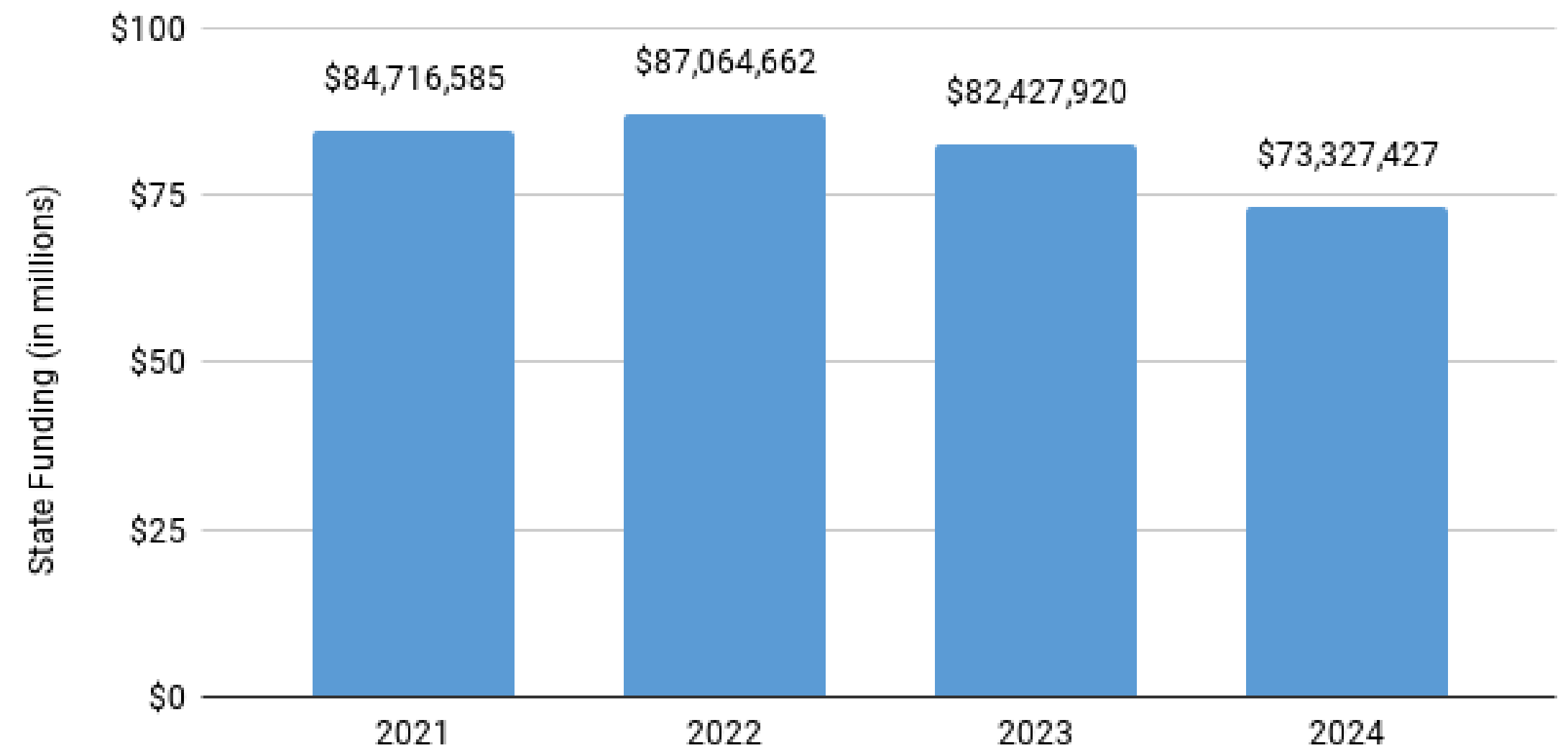
SCHOOL FUNDING 2021- 2024

State Adequate Education Aid, 2021-2024



SCHOOL FUNDING 2021- 2024

State Funding for Students Enrolled in School Meals, 2021-2024



STUDENT NEEDS ARE INCREASING



35%

A light blue circle with a white percentage '35%' in the center. The circle is partially filled with a darker blue, creating a stylized '35%' shape.

increase in the percentage of students **qualifying for school meals** between 2013 (20%) and 2019 (28%)



25%

A light blue circle with a white percentage '25%' in the center. The circle is partially filled with a darker blue, creating a stylized '25%' shape.

increase in the percentage of students **receiving special education services** between 2013 (16%) and 2022 (20%)



50%

A light blue circle with a white percentage '50%' in the center. The circle is partially filled with a darker blue, creating a stylized '50%' shape.

increase in the percentage of students **receiving ELL services** between 2013 (2%) and 2022 (3%)

SCHOOL FUNDING BILLS

House Bill 540 & HB 577

- Increases funding for special education

House Bill 334

- Increases state funding to 1/2 of CPP

House Bill 649

- Repeals statewide education property tax

House Bill 529

- Restores targeted funding for communities based on tax capacity & student need

House Bill 435

- Aligns relief funding to biennial CPI adjustments

SCHOOL FUNDING BILLS

House Bill 440

- Allows the state to use Education Trust Fund money to fund school voucher program

LSR 2023-0801 (Senate)

- Increases state contribution to retirement system for certain employers

SCHOOL BUILDING AID BILLS

House Bill 546

- Increases school building aid amount to *at least* \$50m, plus debt service

House Bill 541

- Increases school building aid to amount *at least* \$50m

House Bill 332

- Increases school building aid to amount *at least* \$60m, plus debt service
- Funds construction/renovation done during moratorium

House Bill 365

- Creates a statewide facility condition report

SCHOOL VOUCHERS

NH News

N.H.'s latest education initiatives draw support from national, local conservative groups

New Hampshire Public Radio | By Sarah Gibson
Published October 8, 2021 at 10:26 AM EDT



New Hampshire Bulletin

STATE HOUSE VOTING HEALTH EDUCATION ENERGY + ENVIRONMENT COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

Commentary: The dark money behind the push for vouchers, ‘divisive concepts’ legislation



MAURICE T. CUNNINGHAM

FEBRUARY 25, 2022 5:46 AM

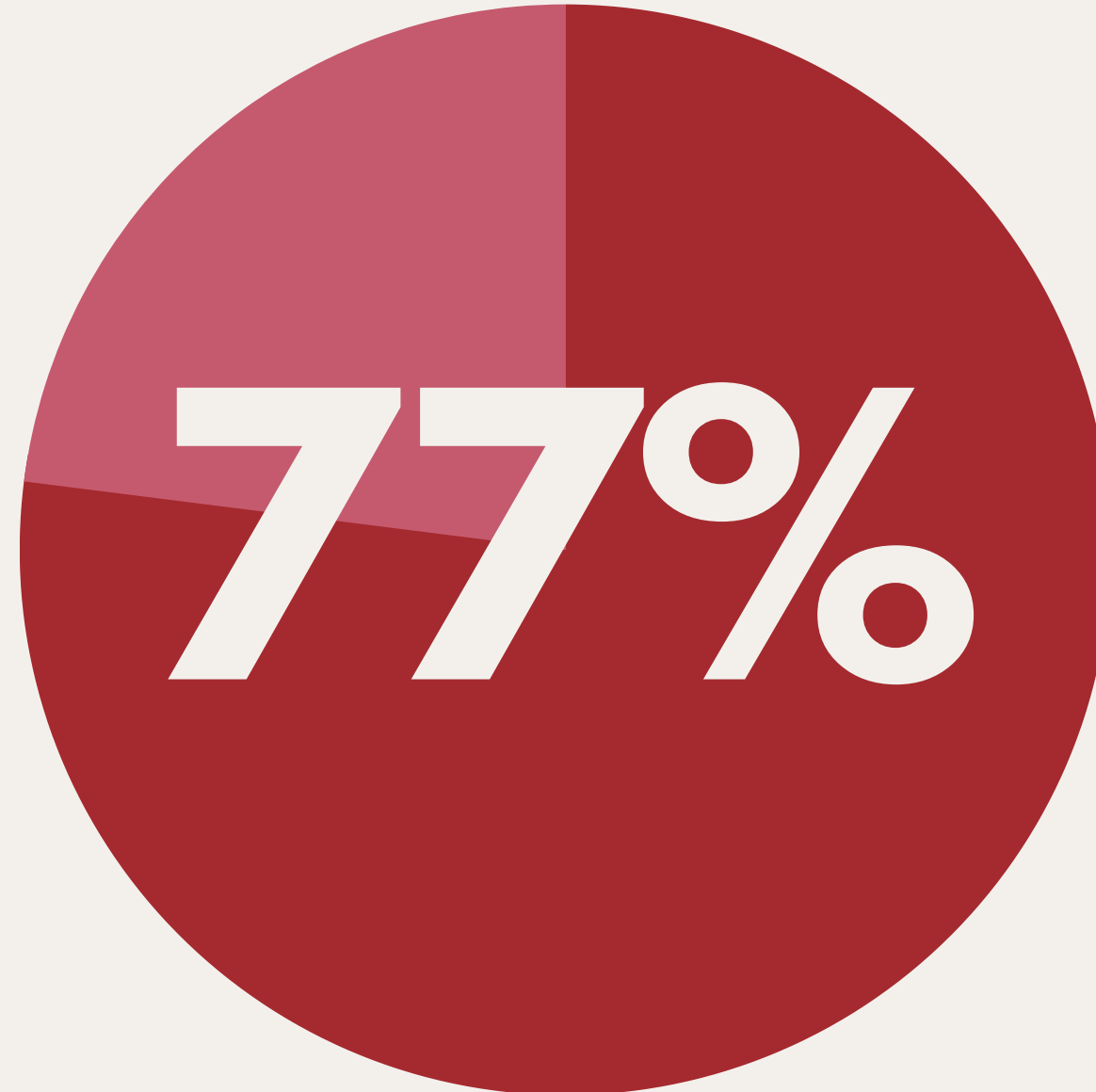


New Hampshire voucher program part of national school choice wave fueled by pandemic

🕒 Friday, January 21, 2022 👤 Nour Habib 📁 Civics, Education, Granite State
News Collaborative 💬 0 Comments

SCHOOL VOUCHERS

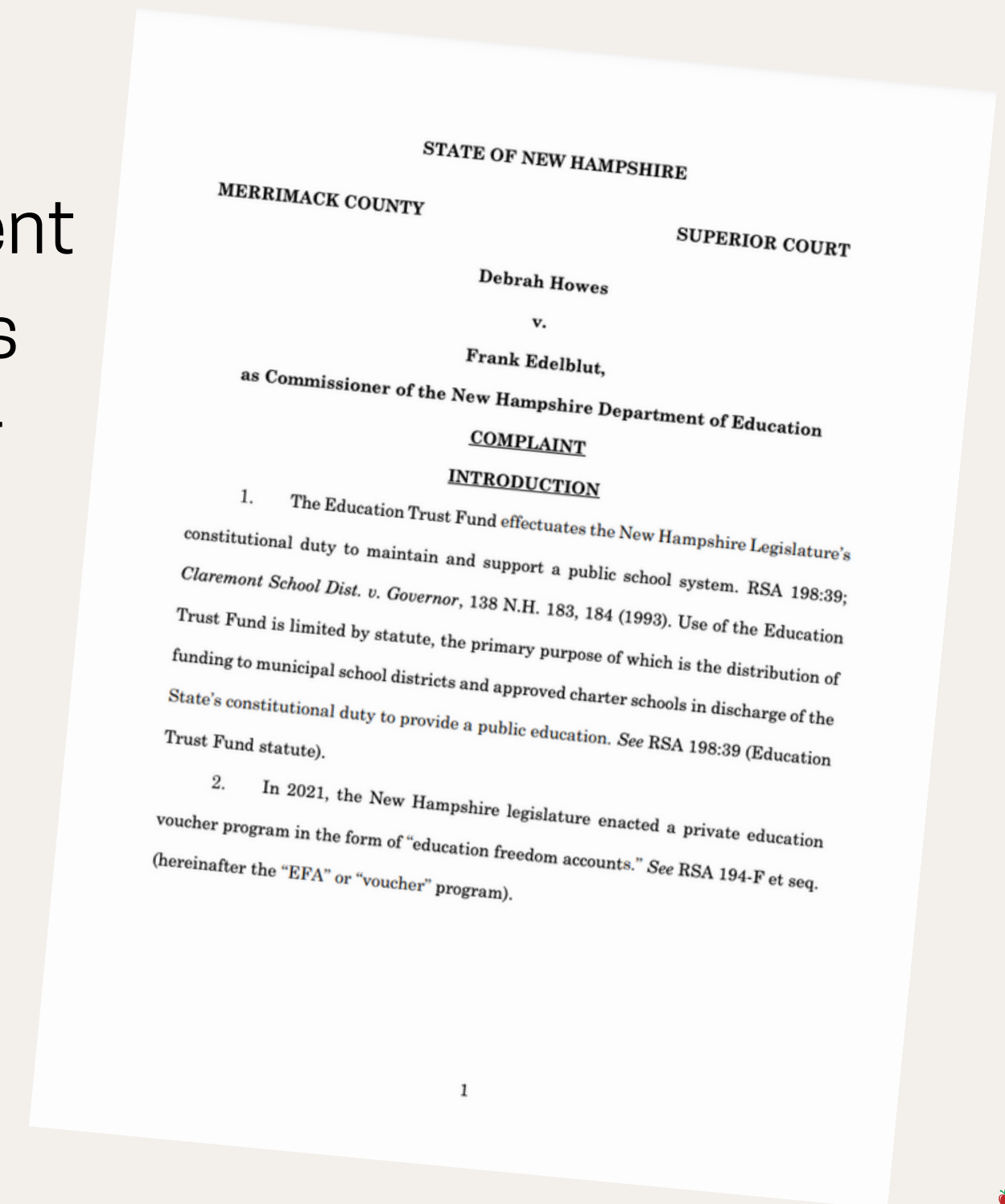
The state's school voucher program will cost taxpayers \$14.7 million in 2022. In total, the state will have spent \$23 million in school vouchers in the past two years.



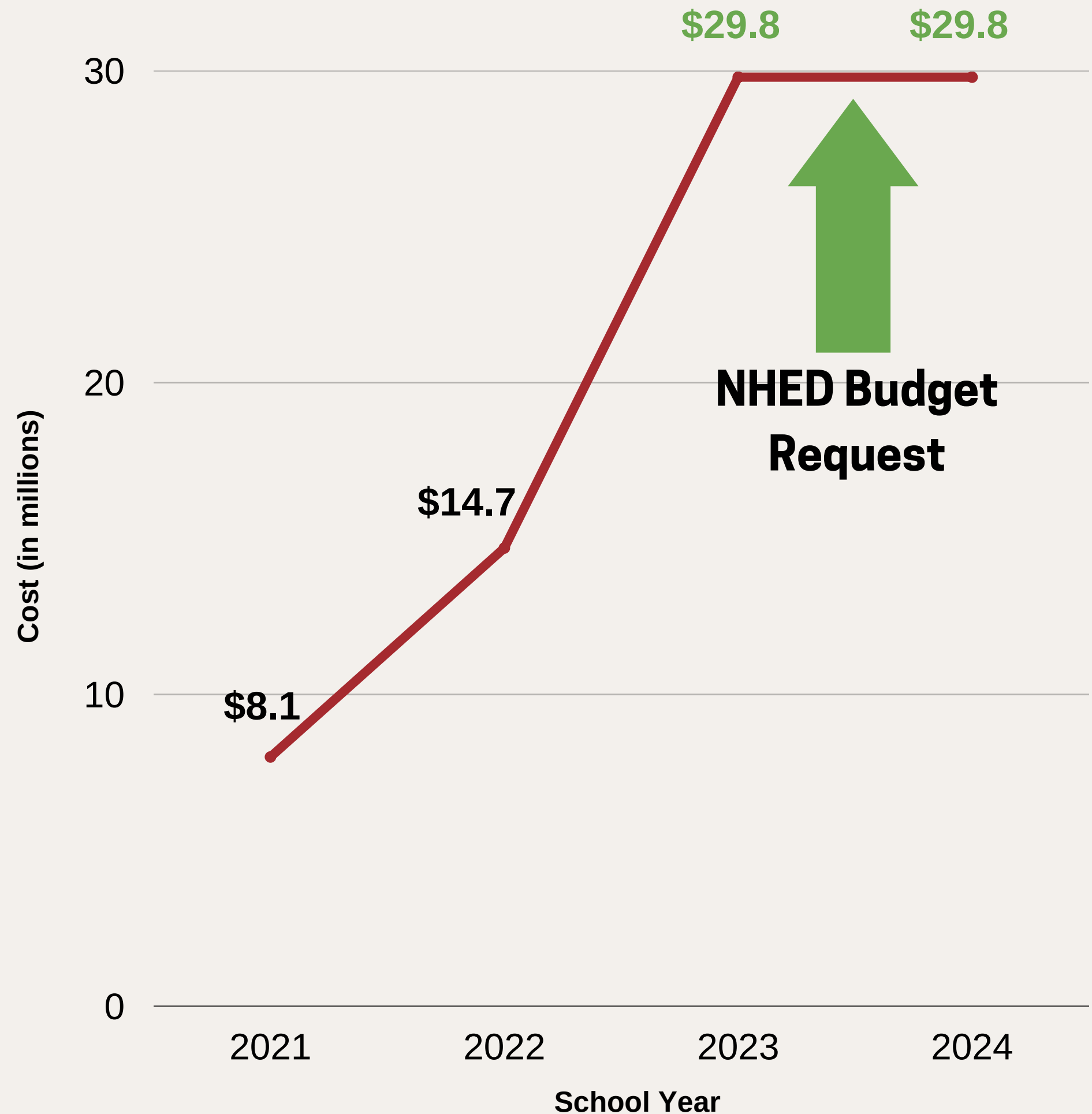
**of public funds
are going to
students who
were already
enrolled in
private schools
or homeschooled**

SCHOOL VOUCHER LAWSUIT

Lawsuit challenges the statewide school voucher program, saying that it delegates the state's responsibility to educate children to a third-party, independent company, and that it is an illegal and improper use of the Education Trust Fund



SCHOOL VOUCHER BUDGET REQUEST



SCHOOL VOUCHER EXPANSION

House Bill 464

- Is a child with a disability
- Multilingual student
- In foster care
- Status as a "migratory child"
- Experiencing homelessness
- Eligible for school meals (<185% of FPG)
- Parent who is a member of the armed forces
- Lives within "geographic boundary" of a CSI School
- Has a documented manifest educational hardship
- "Persistently bullied" student

SCHOOL VOUCHER EXPANSION

House Bill 367

- Income eligibility: <500% Federal Poverty Guideline (\$150,000 for a family of four in 2023 -- current limit: <300%, or \$90,000 for a family of four)
- Would nearly double eligibility

House Bill 331

- Removes income eligibility
- Resident of the state who is eligible to enroll in a public elementary or secondary school

LOCAL SCHOOL VOUCHERS

House Bill 538

- Establishes a locally-funded school voucher program
- Eligible students would be attending their local public school, charter school, are a kindergarten student, or are homeschooled
- Requires 3/5 majority vote on school warrant article
- Voucher would be twice the per-pupil adequate education grant per student (including differentiated aid)
- School district would receive state adequate education dollars for that student

SCHOOL VOUCHER BILLS

House Bill 430

- Repeals the school voucher program

House Bill 573

- Limits funding to budgeted amounts

House Bill 626

- Requires NHED to administer voucher program

House Bill 515

- Allows voucher funds to be used to pay for courses at public schools
- Adds "intentional" to misuse statute
- Adds organizational requirement to report misuse to Attorney General
- Adds reporting requirements

DIVISIVE CONCEPTS & SCHOOL CLIMATE BILLS

House Bill 61

- Repeals divisive concepts law

House Bill 533

- Allows NHED to sue school districts on behalf of a person

House Bill 10

- Establishes a "parental bill of rights"

House Bill 629

- Establishes a "student bill of rights"

House Bill 619

- Prohibits educators from using names other than what student is enrolled as; bans certain discussions around gender and pronouns

STRENGTHENING & DIVERSIFYING THE EDUCATOR WORKFORCE

House Bill 623

- Creates a teacher loan forgiveness program

House Bill 654

- Extends one-year certificates to a second year

LSR 2023-1004 (Senate)

- Establishes an early educator professional development grant

LSR 2023-1022 (Senate)

- Establishes a rural and underserved educator incentive program

LSR 2023-1023 (Senate)

- Establishes a salary floor for public school teachers

5 Key
Themes of
ED 306
Overhaul



EQUITY & STUDENT PROTECTIONS

Removal of guidance for safe and healthy schools, protections for students and staff

GUTTING PROGRAM ELEMENTS

Replacing program elements with boilerplate language

LOCAL CONTROL

Removal of local competencies and removal of certified educators in granting credit

NEW REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Personalized Learning Plans

DEFINITIONS

Changes throughout that minimize formal instruction

OVERHAUL OF MINIMUM STANDARDS

HB 371

- Establishes a commission to evaluate and recommend standards for public schools

OTHER BILLS OF INTEREST

Charter Schools

School Boards

Curriculum & Assessment

Mental Health & Wellness

Eliminating residency requirements

School Meals & Food Security

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

In person at location of public hearing
(usually Legislative Office Building)

Written testimony submitted to
House Education Committee or
through portal

**Support/Oppose without written
testimony** through online portal

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- House Education Committee & Senate Education Committee tend to meet on Tuesdays
- Meetings are live-streamed on YouTube
- February 14 (ish): Governor releases his proposed biennial budget
- February 27-March 3: BREAK
- April 6: CROSSOVER
- June 15: Committees of Conference form
- June 29: Last day to vote on Committee of Conference reports

REACHING HIGHER NH WEBINAR: SCHOOL VOUCHERS

**Thursday, January 26
1-2 p.m.**

bit.ly/schoolvouchers2023

A hand is holding a smartphone, with the index finger pointing at the screen. Several white outline icons of envelopes are floating in the air around the hand and phone. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color.

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