



House Bill 5150

AN ACT CONCERNING AUTHORIZATION OF STATE GRANT COMMITMENTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS AND REVISIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS STATUTES

Testimony of the Department of Administrative Services

Education Committee

February 20, 2026

Senator McCrory, Representative Leeper, Senator Berthel, Representative Zupkus, and distinguished members of the Education Committee. We thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on **House Bill 5150: An Act Concerning Authorization of State Grant Commitments for School Building Projects and Revisions to the School Building Projects Statutes**, including the 2026 Priority List Grant Commitments, and a School Building Project grant incentive.

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) has no concerns with **Section 1** of this bill, which authorizes grant commitments for the school building projects on the 2026 Priority List.

DAS has concerns about **Section 2** of this bill, which establishes an incentive for school districts to receive reimbursement if their enrollment has increased by 20% or more over the previous 10 years when submitting a school building project application. Implementing specific reimbursement rates for certain communities, rather than using the annually determined rates based on municipal grand list data, complicates the efficient administration of the program.

We urge the Committee to explore alternative approaches to support school districts experiencing enrollment growth that do not impose financial or administrative burdens on the current school building project grant program and would be an exceptional strain on resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. We look forward to working with the Committee leadership on these topics throughout the legislative session.