



# GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023

**HB 435, relative to relief aid calculation in determining grants for adequate education.**

**HB 435**

**Finance: ITL**

**YEA ITL**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill increases the amount for relief aid grants based on eligibility for free or reduced-priced school meals and adjusts the grants by changes in the consumer price index.**

- This bill removes a barrier that prevents runaway spending by tying the already very-generous free school food program to the inflating CPI instead of its current limit of \$17.5 million.

**HB 532, (New Title) relative to the licensure and regulation of music therapists and other occupations and professions.**

**HB 532**

**Finance: OTP**

**ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill expands occupational licensing without a compelling public interest.**

**NAY  
OTP**

- Music therapy does not include the screening, diagnosis, or assessment of any physical, mental, or communication disorder. Music therapists are not qualified mental health professionals.
- This bill simply creates a new state-granted barrier of entry into a profession. This will limit consumer choices, ultimately growing state government under the guise of providing an option for such therapy to be covered under health insurance.