

HB 1776 -- SCHOOL RENOVATION PROJECTS

SPONSOR: Amato

This bill establishes the "Vernon Sullivan Memorial School Renovation Grant" and the "School Renovation Projects Matching Grant" program. Beginning in the 2026-27 school year and subject to appropriations, this program provides school districts an opportunity to apply for a matching grant for "eligible projects"; such projects must be related to installation, repair, or renovation of roofing, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, windows, or other related school health or environmental improvements.

The bill specifies the application and notification process and authorizes the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to review applications and determine grant recipients. The Department may assign priority status to districts that demonstrate the need for school renovation projects.

The Department must rank applications and establish a priority score as specified in the bill, with facility destruction, district growth, and equalized assessed valuation per pupil as contributing factors.

These provisions sunset six years after the effective date.

This bill is similar to HB 391 (2025).