



New Hampshire Senate News Release

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Senate Bill Creates “Senior Citizens Bill of Rights”

Concord, NH – The State Senate today passed legislation to establish a “Senior Citizens Bill of Rights” to protect Granite State seniors. Senate Bill 371, authored by Senate Health, Education and Human Services Committee Chairman Nancy Stiles, R-Hampton, was necessitated by report of elderly residents receiving unequal or unjust treatment at various living facilities around the state.

“The intention of this bill is simply to ensure that the elderly within our communities are aware of their rights and that those rights are respected,” said Sen. Stiles. “This bill follows nearly four years of collaborative work between a bipartisan group of elected leaders and our elderly constituents to craft a bill that will help to guarantee they can live safe, comfortable, and happy lives.”

As passed, the bill requires management to post and distribute policies consistent with a series of rights laid out in the legislation. These include regulations related to dignity and privacy, complaint resolution, and due process. The “Bill of Rights” is informed by existing statutes and replicates a process similar to the one used in manufactured home communities. A violation of this law would constitute an unfair or deceptive act or practice under the state’s consumer protection laws.

“The Senior Citizens Bill of Rights will ensure that no matter where our state’s seniors choose to live that they are treated equally and with the respect they have earned,” concluded Stiles.

SB 371 passed the Senate on a voice vote and now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

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