



**New Hampshire Senate**  
**News Release**

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**Senate puts reauthorization of the NH Health Protection Program on hold**

**Concord, NH** – The Senate voted today to lay a bill upon the table that would reauthorize the New Hampshire Health Protection Program (NH HPP).

Last year, New Hampshire adopted the NH HPP program midway through 2014 to provide expanded private health insurance coverage to low income adults and families as long as the program is 100% federally funded. The program is set to expire at the end of 2016, when federal funding decreases and the state's financial responsibility increases.

"The early results of the NH HPP are encouraging and are showing a drop in emergency room visits and uncompensated care, which is a hidden tax on every person and business with private health insurance. Reducing this hidden tax will help lower health insurance costs," said Senator Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro).

"But it also needs to be remembered that we haven't yet fully implemented the program. Federal cost-shifting also threatens the solvency of New Hampshire's existing Medicaid program," Bradley continued.

"We will have a much better idea of how the NH Health Protection Plan is working next year, and that is when we should decide whether to extend it," added Bradley.

"I look forward to reviewing reauthorization in 2016 when we have more comprehensive data and results that are truly reflective of how the program is working."

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