



New Hampshire Senate
News Release

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Forrester disappointed by veto of legislation preventing EBT fraud

Concord, NH – Today Governor Maggie Hassan vetoed SB 169, which clarified prohibited uses of the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBTs) card or cash from the card at places including at state liquor stores, gambling establishments, and adult entertainment venues or for firearms, lottery tickets or tobacco.

Senator Jeanie Forrester, the prime sponsor of this bill, released a statement following the Governor's Veto of SB 169.

"I've been working on this issue since the federal government mandated protections against the misuse of cash benefits in 2012. This bill served to build on legislation that I brought forward in my first term at the request of the Department of Health and Human Services, relative to requirements of federal government in order to keep funding," said Senator Jeanie Forrester (R-Meredith).

"This bill was an important step in providing a clearer understanding of how these benefits should be used. I'm surprised and disappointed by the Governor's refusal to take a simple step forward to assure that taxpayer dollars are being spent in a responsible manner," said Forrester.

"Last year alone, the state found over \$1 million worth of fraud for misuse of EBT benefits. When we spend New Hampshire taxpayer's money to help those on public assistance, we have a responsibility to protect both the taxpayers and those receiving this critical assistance," added Forrester.

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