



New Hampshire Senate

News Release

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Bradley, Boutin advocate for drug court legislation

Support state-wide opt-in program for NH counties

Concord, NH - Today, the Joint Task Force for the response to the heroin and opioid epidemic in New Hampshire met to review drug court legislation which would allow each county to choose to voluntarily establish a drug court to serve their community. The Division III members unanimously recommended the drug court legislation for early consideration during the upcoming legislative session to the whole Task Force.

Joint Task Force Chair Senator Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro) and Senator David Boutin (R-Hooksett), who co-sponsor the drug court bill, issued the following statements pertaining to the discussion.

"By giving New Hampshire's Counties the ability to voluntarily opt-in to this drug court program, and allowing for flexibility in prosecution and discretion when deciding an offender's eligibility for this program, this legislation can be tailored to effectively support the specific needs of counties large and small across the state," said Senator Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro).

"I am grateful for the support shown today for establishing a drug court grant program. We've spent months meeting with key stakeholders, and developing this legislation together and today's discussion helped us to examine each component of the drug courts more closely," said Senator David Boutin (R-Hooksett).

"Drug Courts are proven to play a major role in the response to the heroin and opioid crisis by working to reduce the rate of recidivism and relapse for individuals struggling with drug addiction who become repeat criminal offenders. Drug Courts provide accountability, treatment, and recovery services that give repeat offenders the opportunity to break from the cycle of addiction and incarceration," said Bradley.

"We will continue to make improvements to this legislation, answer questions, and address any concerns that arise so that we can see this bill move quickly through the legislative process in preparation for a vote by both the full House and Senate in the upcoming session," added Boutin.

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