



## **New Hampshire Senate**

### **News Release**

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### **Boutin pleased with passage of bills to strengthen child abuse prevention**

Concord, NH -Today, the Senate passed a pair of bills, SB 537 and SB 538, proposed as a result of the work done in the Commission to Review Child Abuse Fatalities, in addition to SB 536 which passed last week, to strengthen child abuse prevention in the state of New Hampshire.

Senator David Boutin (R-Hooksett), prime sponsor and chair of the Commission issued a statement following the passage of this legislation.

"The legislation we passed today joins a bill passed last week as a coordinated approach to extend additional resources and strengthen child abuse prevention efforts in the State of New Hampshire."

"These bills give the Division of Children Youth and Families greater authority to request permission by a judge to remove a child from an unsafe home in emergency situations, who would then place the child in protective custody, as well as increase the period of time child abuse reports must be held by child protective services offices."

"We will continue our work on these issues related to stronger protections for New Hampshire's children and I look forward to the House's support, and these bills being signed into law."

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