



New Hampshire Senate

News Release

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Media Contact:

Kate Giaquinto

kate.giaquinto@leg.state.nh.us

(603) 271-3043

Progress made on employment law for doctors, state anticipates healthcare savings

Concord, NH – Today, the New Hampshire House of Representatives passed SB 417, a bill preventing hospitals from requiring doctors to sign non-compete contracts that would prohibit them from practicing at other facilities in the surrounding areas.

Senator Andy Sanborn (R-Bedford), prime sponsor of the bill, issued a statement following the House's vote to pass this legislation.

"Passage of this legislation by the New Hampshire House will provide greater choice for patients, increase access to healthcare and limit disruptions in continuity of care by rendering non-compete contracts between doctors and hospitals unenforceable. As a result, doctors will be able to freely change jobs between hospitals and practices in the state, increasing competition among hospitals and providers while also driving down rising medical costs for patients in New Hampshire," said Senator Andy Sanborn (R-Bedford).

"Today 75% of doctors and 50% of specialists in New Hampshire are hospital employees," added Sanborn. "By removing this barrier, we are restoring the balance and are actively creating an environment for more independent doctors and practices. There are many conversations about healthcare reform and since doctors are on the front lines delivering care this should provide an overall benefit to the healthcare system and make healthcare more responsive. This is why the bill had broad support from a wide range of groups including the New Hampshire Medical Society and insurance companies and I urge Governor Hassan to sign this important healthcare change into law."

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