



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

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## **Forrester stresses consistency in substance abuse laws in NH**

Concord, NH – The Senate today voted down a measure, HB 1631, that would have decriminalized half an ounce of marijuana in the State of New Hampshire.

Senator Jeanie Forrester (R-Meredith) issued a statement following the vote.

“Today the Senate is sending a strong message that we are serious about preventing substance abuse in the State of New Hampshire by voting down HB 1631 which would have decriminalized possession of half an ounce of marijuana.”

“We are in the middle of a heroin epidemic and one of the most serious public health crises this state has ever faced. Since January, we have worked hard to provide \$30 million in additional funding and resources for prevention, treatment, and recovery to combat the heroin crisis in our state, in addition to the increased funding and resources provided as part of the state budget for the current biennium.”

“It would be irresponsible to approve a bill that does the exact opposite of curbing the substance abuse problem in our state by weakening the penalties for possession of an illegal substance and I applaud the Senate’s good judgment by voting down this measure today. We will continue to focus our efforts on curbing this crisis, sending clear and consistent messages that we are committed to seeing the heroin epidemic come to an end in New Hampshire.”

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