



New Hampshire Senate  
**News Release**

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## **Gray touts Governor's signing of needle exchange program for New Hampshire**

Concord, NH - Today, Governor Chris Sununu signed a bill, SB 234, which would provide guidelines to establish a needle exchange program in New Hampshire.

Senator James Gray (R-Rochester), the bill's prime sponsor, issued the following statement:

"Many substance users are contracting blood borne, preventable diseases as a result of used needles. Identifying this as a significant public health concern, we worked with stakeholders to look at the best way for our state to establish a needle exchange program in New Hampshire through this legislation."

"The program we've developed will offer some legal protections for those using illicit substances to dispose of syringes with trace amounts of drugs and obtain clean syringes while also ensuring that substance users have access and are provided with the guidance they need to enter treatment and recovery programs in the state."

"I am pleased that Governor Sununu has signed this bill into law today, allowing our state to strike the appropriate balance needed to establish a productive needle exchange program for disease prevention and substance abuse treatment."

**PHOTO:** Dr. Joe Hannon, Senator James Gray and advocates look on as Governor Chris Sununu signs [SB 234](#)

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