



New Hampshire Senate

News Release

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Avard praises signing of stronger rape shield protections for NH victims

Concord, NH - Today, Governor Chris Sununu signed SB 9, a bill relative to the admissibility of prior consensual sexual activity in sexual assault cases.

Senator Kevin Avard (R-Nashua), the bill's prime sponsor, issued the following statement after the bill was signed.

"Today's signing of SB 9 into law serves to enhance protections for victims of sexual assault from being required to divulge additional unrelated sexual history in a trial or appeal."

"The threat of being asked to reveal additional personal and unrelated information is a significant barrier for many victims of sexual assault that prevents them from coming forward. By enhancing protections that does now allow the admission of prior sexual history in a trial we are allowing victims the assurance that their private life can remain private."

"I would like to thank the advocates who worked tirelessly on this legislation, for my colleagues support throughout the process and for Governor Sununu's willingness to sign this measure into law today. We hope that removing this barrier will help victims seek the justice they deserve."

PHOTO: Governor Chris Sununu signs SB 9 alongside Bob and Melissa Marriott, the mother and father Lizzi Marriott, and the bill's prime sponsor, Senator Kevin Avard, advocates and supporters.

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