



NH STATE SENATE PRESS RELEASE

February 21, 2020

Contact Name: Sara Persechino

Phone: (603) 271-3479

Email: Sara.Persechino@leg.state.nh.us

Senator Hennessey Introduces Comprehensive Sexual Assault Education and Prevention Plan for New Hampshire Colleges and Universities

CONCORD - Yesterday, Senator Martha Hennessey (D-Hanover) introduced SB 679-FN to the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill mandates higher education institutions to adopt comprehensive policies and procedures in relation to sexual assault including educational information, awareness programming, a campus safety officer, confidential resources, and more. All programs and positions enacted by the institution would be aimed at combating sexual assault and violence on campus.

After the hearing, prime sponsor Martha Hennessey (D-Hanover) issued the following statement:

“Every student has the right to feel safe when they walk through campus. We are more aware than ever of the destructive and frequent nature of sexual assault. In New Hampshire, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 20 men have been assaulted and 83% of those assaults happen before the victim is 25. It is our job as public servants to do everything we can to protect students on our college and university campuses. By continuing to open up the dialogue and providing more resources at these institutions we are giving our students the best chance at a safe and secure education.”

####