



NH SENATE PRESS RELEASE

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Senator Morgan Champions Veterans Protections, Moves Bipartisan Bill Forward

CONCORD - Today, the Senate unanimously passed HB 1582, an omnibus bill relative to veterans protections. The bill creates programs designed to aid veterans' access to employment, entrepreneurship, housing, health care, and educational assistance.

After the vote, Senator Jon Morgan (D-Brentwood) issued the following statement:

“Here in New Hampshire, we are proud of our long held tradition of respect for military service and the people who dedicate their lives to protecting our country. The Granite State is home to over 100,000 veterans who have dedicated their lives to the service to their state and to their country.

As a Legislature, we will continue to take action to codify current protections in support of our growing community of active duty, reserves, and other veterans living and working in New Hampshire. In this legislation we assist our veterans to start businesses, find jobs and apprenticeships matching their skillset, obtain physical and mental health services, prevent suicide, achieve license and certification reciprocity, access educational opportunities for themselves and their families, and we continue the fight to end veteran homelessness. I am grateful to my Senate colleagues for their continued bipartisan support of these programs and their work in furthering this legislation and I look forward to working with my House colleagues to get this critical bill across the finish line.”

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On Background:

- HB 1582 includes text from the following bills:
 - SB 726 (*Second New Title*) relative to programs to aid veterans' access to employment, housing, health care, and college degrees
 - HB 1582 providing free tuition at colleges and universities for children of veterans who are totally and permanently disabled
 - SB 421 relative to educational assistance for members of the New Hampshire national guard and relative to tuition waivers for children in state foster care or guardianship

- SB 455 *prohibiting higher education institutions from discriminating on the basis of military, law enforcement, or veterans status*