



NH SENATE PRESS RELEASE

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Omnibus Health Care Legislation Passes New Hampshire House

CONCORD - Today, the New Hampshire House of Representatives voted to concur with the Senate recommendation of Ought to Pass as Amended on HB 1639 in a vote of 201-121. HB 1639 will next be enrolled with the Secretary of State's office and then go to the governor's desk, at which time he will have five days to act.

After the vote, Senator Tom Sherman (D-Rye) issued the following statement:

"The public health and safety of New Hampshire is a multifaceted entity. While our focus has rightfully been on the impacts of the novel coronavirus, we cannot turn a blind eye to the system as a whole," stated **Senator Tom Sherman (D-Rye)**. "Long running public health emergencies such as New Hampshire's opioid crisis may very well be exacerbated by the economic and social impacts of COVID-19. This legislation takes steps to give the state the necessary funding and tools to gain a clearer picture of what works, and how we can expand treatment and recovery options. I was honored to bring forward this bipartisan amendment, I am grateful for the support of my House colleagues, and I look forward to the Governor's signing of this important legislation."

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On Background:

- HB 1639 as amended includes text from the following bills:
 - SB 507 *relative to prescription medication for treatment or prevention of communicable disease*
 - SB 531 *relative to prior authorizations under group health insurance policies and managed care*
 - SB 619 *repealing the sunset provision for insurance coverage for oral anti-cancer therapies*
 - SB 447 *relative to pharmacy audit provisions*
 - SB 693 *allowing health maintenance organizations to write preferred provider organization products for Medicare Advantage*
 - SB 749 *relative to non-covered services under dental insurance plans*

- HB 1639 *relative to “In and Out Medical Assistance”*
- SB 718 *relative to the New Hampshire state health improvement plan and making an appropriation therefor*
- SB 546 *relative to management of chronic pain* HB 1287 *relative to the duration of antibiotic therapy for tick-borne illness.*
- SB 598 *adding physician assistants to the law governing advance directives*
- SB 597 *relative to licensure of physician assistants*
- SB 620 *relative to coverage for certain biologically-based mental illnesses*
- SB 744 *establishing a commission to review drug overdose fatality information and data*
- SB 762 *establishing an opioid abatement trust fund.*
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- SB 645 *relative to the New Hampshire granite advantage health care trust fund*
- SB 519 *relative to special health care services licenses*
- SB 476 *relative to certain procedures conducted in teaching hospitals*
- Language to ensure pharmacists can administer a COVID vaccine if it's developed.