



NH SENATE PRESS RELEASE

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Omnibus Health Care Legislation Signed Into Law

CONCORD - Today, HB 1639, a bipartisan omnibus health care bill, was signed into law.

Senator Tom Sherman (D-Rye) issued the following statement in response:

“New Hampshire’s health care system will be recovering from the direct and indirect impacts of the coronavirus pandemic for years to come. HB 1639 works to address not only the immediate needs as related to the virus, including authorizing pharmacists to administer a COVID-19 vaccine when one becomes available, but the long term effects on public health by giving the state the necessary funding and tools to study and expand treatment and recovery options for opioid addiction. This comprehensive legislation is the result of bipartisan collaboration and I am happy to see it signed into law today.”

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On Background:

- HB 1639 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.