

# RELEASE: Bill To Expand Protections for Animals and Allow New Hampshire Farmers to Grow Hemp Signed Into Law



Zack Sheehan

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New Hampshire House of Representatives  
Concord, New Hampshire  
House Majority Office

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Rep. Amanda Gourgue  
(603) 271-2136

## **BILL TO EXPAND PROTECTIONS FOR ANIMALS AND ALLOW NEW HAMPSHIRE FARMERS TO GROW HEMP SIGNED INTO LAW**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** –Today, Governor Sununu signed [House Bill 459](#), legislation that includes several protections for animals and also allows for the growth of hemp in New Hampshire. After the signing ceremony at Humane Society for Greater Nashua, **Representative Amanda Gourgue (D-Lee), chair of the House Environment and Agriculture Committee** released the following statement:

“The House Environmental & Agriculture Committee has been working on versions of HB 459 for several years and we are thrilled to have passed it this year. This bill is very important for the people and animals of New Hampshire because it helps protect animals from cruelty. This bill requires the courts to quickly deal with cases in which animals have been seized and prohibits any person convicted of a felony cruelty or bestiality from owning or living with an animal for at least five years.”

“In addition to the necessary protections to animals House Bill 459 also legalizes the growing of hemp in New Hampshire, consistent with recent changes in the 2018 Farm Bill,” **Representative Peter Bixby (D-Dover)** added. “The ability to grow hemp legally expands agricultural opportunities for farmers across the state. HB 459 is a well balanced bill and something we should all be proud of.”

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Zack Sheehan  
House of Representatives  
House Majority Office  
State House Room 313  
603-271-2136  
He/Him/His

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