

# RELEASE: Bill to Add Warning Label to Prescription Drugs Containing Opioids Signed by Governor



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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## **BILL TO ADD WARNING LABEL TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS CONTAINING OPIOIDS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – On Friday Governor Sununu signed [HB 359](#) into law, legislation that will require prescription drugs containing opiates to have an “Opioid” cap sticker, as well as a warning label and informational handout on risks and safeguards. **Representative Tom Loughman (D-Hampton), prime sponsor of the bill**, released the following statement:

“Most opioid misuse begins with the misuse of prescription opioids. By lowering the rate of prescription opioid misuse, we can significantly curb the opioid crisis. HB 359 requires opioid-containing prescriptions to have an orange sticker on the cap that says “OPIOID” and a warning label that says “Risk of addiction and overdose.” The bill also requires a handout to be provided that contains more information on the risks involved and how to mitigate them.”

“Making good decisions requires us to have the right information. While there are many factors for why someone may misuse opioid prescription drugs, one of them is not understanding or appreciating the very serious risks involved. 30% of people who take opioid prescription drugs don’t even know they are taking an opioid. What’s more, people in recovery have accidentally relapsed when they were prescribed opioids without realizing it. By informing and empowering patients, HB 359 is a step towards curbing this opioid crisis at its source.”