

RELEASE: Bipartisan Legislation to Identify Safety and Long-term Care Needs Signed into Law

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Fri 7/24/2020 3:00 PM

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PRESS RELEASE

July 24, 2020

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LEGISLATION TO IDENTIFY SAFETY AND PPE NEEDS FOR NH LONGTERM CARE SIGNED INTO LAW

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE –Today, Governor Sununu signed [HB 578](#), legislation that will create a committee to study the safety of residents and employees in long-term care facilities, clarifies cost-controls and allows for Medicaid reimbursement for the cost of training nursing assistants. **Chair of the Health, Human Services, and Elderly Affairs Committee Rep. Lucy Weber (D-Walpole)** released the following statement:

“COVID-19 has made everyone in New Hampshire acutely aware of the issues facing our aging population and has tragically taken the lives of too many. Over 80% of deaths from COVID-19 in New Hampshire have needlessly occurred in our long-term care and nursing home facilities and healthcare providers across the state have cited not having enough appropriate protective equipment for themselves and their patients. In addition to identifying PPE shortages and safety measures, this legislation will take into account the risk of suicide by healthcare workers in the state, a threat that is only increased during the horrifying reality of working on the frontlines of a global pandemic with limited resources. It is imperative that we protect aging Granite Staters as well as their healthcare providers and staff and we must stop at nothing to do so. I am pleased that this legislation will help further identify and amplify the needs of our frontline heroes.”

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