



**New Hampshire House of Representatives
Concord, New Hampshire
House Democratic Office**

PRESS RELEASE

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**DEMOCRATIC BILL TO PROTECT LGBTQ+ GRANITE STATERS FROM DISCRIMINATION
PASSES HOUSE**

MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Today, the House of Representatives voted 223-118 to pass HB 238, prohibiting provocations based on a victim’s actual or perceived gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation from being used as a defense in manslaughter cases. Following the vote, prime sponsor of the bill, **Rep. Joshua Query (D-Manchester)** released the following statement:

“Across the country, the ‘gay panic defense’ is used, successfully, to excuse the murder of members of the LGBTQ+ community. This bill is entirely constitutional, does not dismiss traditional self-defense lawsuits, and does not deny existing due process defenses. This legislation will correct a dangerous and life-threatening oversight that is needed to protect the safety of LGBTQ+ people in New Hampshire.

Overwhelmingly, Granite Staters value liberty and justice for all and oppose the dangerous discrimination that laws like the ‘gay panic defense’ allow. I am heartened by the bipartisan support to pass this critical protective legislation.”