



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

PRESS RELEASE

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LATE HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER RENNY CUSHING'S BILL TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE TO CRIME VICTIMS BECOMES LAW

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – On Friday, HB 1235, sponsored by late House Democratic Leader Renny Cushing (D-Hampton) a bill to increase increases the maximum recovery per claimant under the victims' assistance fund became law. **Co-sponsor of the legislation, Rep. Mary Beth Walz (D-Bow)** released the following statement:

“Our late House Democratic Leader Renny Cushing worked for nearly two decades to increase compensation to victims of crime in New Hampshire. As a crime victim himself, he worked across the aisle to make it unequivocally clear that where the state spends so much money prosecuting criminals, we should also be supporting those left most devastated by criminal acts. Crime victims deserve adequate compensation for expenses like mental health counseling, lost wages, funeral and burial expenses, medical treatment, and attorney fees, among others. For years, New Hampshire ranked as one of the lowest states in compensating victims of crime. HB 1235, signed into law last week, further increased the assistance crime victims can receive by 25%. Rep. Cushing leaves a lasting legacy and thanks to his many years of advocacy on this issue, assistance a crime victim in New Hampshire can receive has increased 400%. I was honored to co-sponsor this legislation with him and help steward it to Gov. Sununu’s desk.”