

## New Hampshire House Overrides Governor's Veto, But 11 Senators Side with Police Chiefs and Reject Home Cultivation Bill

**UPDATE:** On Wednesday, September 18, the House voted <u>259-120</u> to override the governor's veto and pass HB 364 into law. Then, on Thursday, the Senate failed to override the veto, voting <u>13-11</u> in favor of passage (sixteen votes were needed).

The encouraging news is that most legislators agree with us on this important issue. The sponsor of HB 364, Rep. Renny Cushing, has already pre-filed another therapeutic cannabis home cultivation bill for the 2020 session, and we will continue the fight until patients are no longer considered criminals if they grow their own cannabis in the "Live Free or Die" State.

Please take a moment to send your legislators a quick follow-up message to say thanks or express your disappointment!

## Do you have friends living in these five Senate districts?

The following five senators voted no on HB 364 on May 2, but it's possible they could be persuaded to vote in favor if they hear from supporters in their districts. Please reach out to your friends in these districts and urge them to contact their senators and help change their minds about HB 364!



District 18 (Manchester Wards 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and Litchfield)

Senate President Donna Soucy (D-Manchester) voted "no" on May 2.

Office phone: 603-271-3040, Email: Donna.Soucy@leg.state.nh.us



District 20 (Manchester Wards 3, 4, 10, 11, and Goffstown)

Senator Lou D'Allesandro (D-Manchester) voted "no" on May 2.

Office phone: 603-271-2117, Email: Lou.Dallesandro@leg.state.nh.us



District 1 (Franconia, Conway, and 58 other "north country" towns)

**Sen. David Starr** (R-Franconia) indicated support for legalization on <u>a 2018 Citizens Count survey</u>, but he voted no on HB 364 on May 2.

Office Phone: 603-271-3469, Email: David.Starr@leg.state.nh.us



**District 8** (Croydon, Newport, Unity, Acworth, Stoddard, Antrim, Deering, Weare, Bradford, Sutton, Newbury, Springfield, New London, Sunapee, Goshen, Grantham, Lempster, Washington, Marlow, Hillsboro, Langdon, Windsor, Bennington, Francestown)

**Sen. Ruth Ward** (R-Stoddard) **indicated on her 2018 MPP candidate survey** that she would support allowing cultivation by registered patients, but she voted no on HB 364 on May 2.

Office phone: 603-271-3092, Email: ruth.ward@leg.state.nh.us



**District 2** (Albany, Bartlett, Brookfield, Chatham, Conway, Eaton, Effingham, Freedom, Hale's Location, Hart's Location, Jackson, Madison, Middleton, Milton, Moultonborough, Ossipee, Sandwich, Tamworth, Tuftonboro, Wakefield, Waterville Valley, and Wolfeboro)

Sen. Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro) voted "no" on May 2.

Office Phone: 603-271-3207, Email: Jeb.Bradley@leg.state.nh.us

## Here are some talking points to consider before you call or write your elected officials in support of HB 364:

- Therapeutic cannabis is helping countless patients stay off opioids, but many patients aren't able to afford cannabis from N.H. dispensaries.
- Home cultivation allows patients to know exactly what they're consuming.
- For many, growing at home is simply the most cost-effective option.
- Home growing allows patients to make use of the entire plant, such as by juicing the leaves.
- The bill would limit possession to three mature plants, three immature plants, and 12 seedlings per registered patient. Caregivers would only be allowed to cultivate for one patient.
- All three neighboring states allow home cultivation for patients and for all adults 21 and older.

Patients are not criminals, and it's time for them to stop being treated like criminals in the "Live Free or Die" state.

• Two consecutive polls from the UNH Survey Center have found that 68% of Granite Staters support legalization of cannabis. But this bill isn't legalization — HB 364 would merely allow registered patients to take care of their own needs without risking arrest and prosecution!

## Please share this information with your friends, especially in the five key Senate districts, and urge them to help pass HB 364 into law!

Here's an easy link to share: mpp.org/nhveto



