



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

January 11, 2024

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to express my support of Senate Bills 414 and 415, mandatory minimum sentences for trafficking and the distribution of large quantities of a controlled drug with death resulting and relative to the penalty for certain fentanyl related offences. With the lack of any effective response from the federal government, New Hampshire, like other states, has been experiencing exacerbated impacts from fentanyl and other controlled drug trafficking.

Senate Bill 414 will help us in this fight by setting a mandatory minimum sentence for the crime of distribution of a controlled drug with death resulting. It puts criminal organizations and drug dealers on notice that the state of New Hampshire is sickened with the senseless deaths, and the state is fighting back with mandatory prison sentences from ten years to life in the state prison for dealers whose substances result in the death of an individual. Fentanyl, the highly addictive, manufactured, drug that results in the vast majority of the overdoses in New Hampshire would be addressed by Senate Bill 415 by giving mandatory minimum sentences to the fentanyl dealers that have unleashed this plague on our state.

These Senate Bills are about holding drug dealers accountable for the death and suffering they are causing the citizens of New Hampshire. Drug dealers are aware that the drug trafficking they partake in, and the fentanyl laced products they are selling, are deadly but sell them anyway because they value profit over human life.

Please advance these bills so that these penalties are reflective of the real harms that affect so many citizens in New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor