



New Hampshire Senate News Release

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Senate Defeats House Bill 639

Concord, NH - Today, Senate President Jeb Bradley commends the collective efforts of lawmakers in defeating House Bill 639, a measure that aimed to recreationalize marijuana in New Hampshire.

"Our state is facing an unprecedented drug crisis, with families across New Hampshire bearing the heartbreaking consequences," stated Senator Bradley.

"The overdose epidemic has left our communities devastated, claiming the lives of countless individuals who have fallen victim to the dangerous allure of illicit substances. Tragically, we have even witnessed cases where unsuspecting individuals have lost their lives after consuming cannabis laced with fentanyl, a highly potent and deadly synthetic opioid.

"We've also received lengthy testimony and reports expressing the dangers posed to children exposed to marijuana. Studies have shown that marijuana use during adolescence can have detrimental effects on brain development. According to a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), frequent marijuana use during adolescence has resulted in an average decline of 8 IQ points by mid-adulthood.

"In the face of such a dire situation, it is essential that we remain steadfast in our commitment to combating this crisis and protecting our citizens from further harm. Recreationalizing marijuana at this critical juncture would send a confusing message, potentially exacerbating the already perilous drug landscape and placing more lives at risk. Now is not the appropriate time to divert our attention away from addressing the pressing challenges posed by the drug crisis.

" I acknowledge the concerns and aspirations of those who advocate for the recreational use of marijuana, but right now our focus should be on effective prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives toward the drug crisis we're currently facing."

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