

## NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 7, 2024

## Senate Passes Legislation to Keep Granite Staters Safe

**CONCORD, NH** – Senate President Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro), Senator Bill Gannon (R-Sandown), and Senator Carrie Gendreau (R-Littleton) issued the following joint statement on the Senate passing SB 504-FN and SB 563-FN, relative to land in current use and relative to federal immigration enforcement respectively:

"Sanctuary City policies hurt countless communities across the country. Every state has become a border state as illegal drugs have ravaged countless communities. U.S. Customs and Border Protection reported that in 2023, 1.2 billion doses of fentanyl were seized. Of the 1.2 billion doses, almost 240,000 of them came from the northern border. New Hampshire doesn't need local hubs where illegal drugs and human trafficking run rampant. SB 504-FN expands grounds for criminal trespassing to include violation of open space land posted for recreational use only and violating controlled drug acts or human trafficking. We cannot have our land abused for illegal drug trades or other illegal activity," said Senate President Jeb Bradley.

"New Hampshire is not going to shield criminals in this country illegally from federal authorities. SB 563-FN blocks state and local government entities from adopting sanctuary policies that impede the enforcement of federal immigration law. U.S. Customs and Border Protection data states that terrorist screening encounters have increased on the Northern Border, with the number increasing by almost 800% from 2021 to 2023. This is a matter of public safety and whether Granite Staters feel safe in their own homes or not. Even the Biden Administration now acknowledges that there is a problem with illegal migrants at our borders," added Senator Bill Gannon.

"There were nearly 190,000 illegal immigrant encounters on the northern border in 2023. We need to give North Country landowners and law enforcement the tools they need to stop illegal migrants from trespassing on their land. The residents of the North Country do not feel safe with an overwhelming number of illegal migrants trying to come into our state. Sanctuary Cities put us all at risk. Even the mayors of Boston and New York City have suspended their Sanctuary City policies due to the overflow of illegal migrants. We need strong borders to protect Granite Staters and our local communities," said Senator Carrie Gendreau.

###

Media Contact: Peter O'Neill, Communications Director peter.oneill@leg.state.nh.us 603-271-3043