



## New Hampshire Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Sen. Avard bi-partisan bill increases support for respite services for people caring for individuals with Alzheimer's (SB 414)**

CONCORD, NH – Prime sponsor Sen. Kevin Avard (R-Nashua), issued the following statement today regarding bi-partisan Senate Bill 414:

“In New Hampshire, some 57,000 caregivers are helping a loved one with Alzheimer’s or a related disorder. Caring for someone with these serious cognitive challenges is often a full-time job and can be emotionally and economically exhausting. Additionally, many caregivers are forced to cut back their hours at work or leave the workforce altogether to provide care for their loved ones at home.”

“SB 414 changes the definition of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders to include people who are symptomatic of these diseases for the purposes of expanding the population of Granite Staters who would be eligible for an Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Program (ADRD) respite grant. Under current law, only individuals with formal Alzheimer’s or other dementia diagnoses may access the grant. These respite grants can provide a small amount of relief to caregivers who are caring for a loved one who experiences one of these conditions and allow their loved ones to stay in their own homes longer.”

“Any assistance we can provide to these dedicated caregivers is a win-win for families, the state, and the long-term care system in New Hampshire.”

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