



New Hampshire Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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Senate improves process for background checks on handgun purchases

CONCORD, NH – Sen. Bob Giuda (R-Warren) issued the following statement today regarding the passage of SB141 on a vote of 14-10. The legislation brings major improvements regarding how the state conducts background checks on handgun purchases:

“SB141 will drastically improve the process for background checks for handguns in New Hampshire which is long overdue. Currently, the state relies on the Department of Safety’s Gun Line to carry out the required National Instant Criminal Background Check (NICS) searches. Because the Gun Line has proven to be inefficient, even with recent changes, law abiding citizens have been forced to wait 6-10 months to exercise their Second Amendment rights, and that is simply unacceptable. Under SB141, the Gun Line is eliminated, and the responsibility for NICS searches is shifted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), whose agents already carry out checks for rifles and shotguns in New Hampshire. They do a great job with near instant checks in the overwhelming majority of cases. Cutting out the point of contact on the state level saves our citizens from unnecessary delays and saves the state money all at the same time. At the end of the day, this legislation reduces government bureaucracy, saves taxpayer dollars, and lessens the infringement on our Second Amendment rights, without in any way jeopardizing the lives and safety of the citizens of New Hampshire. I’m honored to have the support of my colleagues in protecting the freedoms guaranteed in our state and federal Constitutions.”

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