

HB 1172 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2469

06/05

HOUSE BILL **1172**

AN ACT relative to confidentiality protections for national guard sexual assault prevention and response personnel.

SPONSORS: Rep. Moffett, Merr. 4; Rep. Creighton, Hills. 30; Rep. Foss, Hills. 41; Rep. Mandelbaum, Rock. 21; Rep. Roy, Rock. 31; Rep. Seibert, Hills. 21; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Lang, Dist 2; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Sullivan, Dist 18

COMMITTEE: State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill expands the definition of sexual assault counselor under state law to include military and civilian sexual assault prevention and response personnel, thereby extending to them the confidentiality protections of the military rules of evidence.

This bill is a request of the department of military affairs and veteran services.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to confidentiality protections for national guard sexual assault prevention and response personnel.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Definitions; Confidential Communications Between Victims and Counselors. Amend RSA 173-
2 C:1, V to read as follows:

3 V. "Sexual assault counselor" means:

4 **(a)** Any person who is employed or appointed or who volunteers in a rape crisis center
5 who renders support, counseling, or assistance to victims of sexual assault or attempted sexual
6 assault, who has satisfactorily completed 30 hours of training in a bona fide program which has been
7 developed by a rape crisis center as defined in RSA 173-C:1, IV[-]; **or**

8 **(b)** *Sexual assault prevention response (SAPR) military and civilian personnel,*
9 *including, but not limited to, the principal sexual assault response coordinator, sexual*
10 *assault response coordinators, and victim advocates, who render or have rendered support,*
11 *or assistance to victims of sexual assault or attempted sexual assault, and are certified by*
12 *the department of defense sexual assault advocate certification program or who were*
13 *certified by the department of defense sexual assault advocate certification program at the*
14 *time of the support or assistance.*

15 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.