

Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Sophie Walsh 271-3469

SB 616-FN, relative to reporting requirements under the right to try act.

Hearing Date: February 4, 2026

Time Opened: 11:27 a.m.

Time Closed: 11:34 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Rochefort, Birdsell, Prentiss and Long

Members of the Committee Absent: Senator Avard

Bill Analysis: This bill establishes a reporting requirement for providers and facilities providing services under the right to try act. The bill also directs the department of health and human services to provide a report to the general court and to adopt rules regarding the collection and reporting of such information.

Sponsors:
Sen. Prentiss

Who supports the bill: Sen. Prentiss.

Who opposes the bill: Curtis Howland, Timothy Finney, Pamela Harders, Aubrey Freedman, and Kirsten Westrate.

Who is neutral on the bill: No one.

Summary of testimony presented:

Senator Sue Prentiss, Senate District 5

- Senator Prentiss stated that this bill places reporting requirements into the Right to Try statute.
- Last year, HB 701-FN expanded the Right to Try statute, yet unlike other sectors of health care, no reporting requirements were built in.
- Senator Prentiss noted that she supported HB 701-FN and continues to do so, as it allows for terminally ill individuals who have exhausted all FDA-approved options to access experimental options if they choose to do so.
- Senator Prentiss emphasized the importance of this statute and explained that this is a relatively simple change.
- She noted that during HB 701-FN's public hearing last year, it was emphasized that people may travel to New Hampshire to access these treatment options.

- Senator Prentiss emphasized that data is collected in other health care sectors. She wants to align this program, be more specific about the data being collected under this statute, and give the Department of Health and Human Services the ability to write rules related to reporting requirements.
- Senator Prentiss referenced the fiscal note and explained that if the effective date were to be pushed out, the Department would be able to develop this data collection system simultaneously with another, thus reducing costs dramatically.
- Senator Birdsell clarified that expenditures will align with the lower end of projections if the effective date is pushed to 2027 and this coincides with the abortion statistics data system. Senator Prentiss confirmed.
- Senator Rochefort said he has some skepticism about a full-time employee being needed to implement this, given what the bill entails.
- Senator Prentiss explained that fiscal notes are built in a preventative and protective manner, assuming all possibilities.
- Senator Rochefort said it sounds like Senator Prentiss shares some of his skepticism, and Senator Prentiss emphasized that while she understands his skepticism, she has a lot of respect for the Department.