



NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

April 16, 2026

HB 1215 Strengthens Support and Access

CONCORD, NH – Senator Kevin Avard (R-Nashua) released the following statement after HB 1215 passed on a voice vote out of the Senate:

“According to testimony taken regarding this legislation, over the years, autism diagnoses have risen from 1 in 135 to approximately 1 in 30 in the Granite State. HB 1215 takes a proactive approach to better support individuals with autism and other communication disabilities. The bill emphasizes early identification and improved access to care, while ensuring healthcare providers respect and support each individual’s preferred method of communication—an essential step in delivering effective and compassionate treatment. HB 1215 also enhances protocols for transfers from freestanding hospital emergency facilities and expands access to these services, improving continuity of care during critical situations. Together, these measures aim to improve outcomes, strengthen support systems, and help vulnerable individuals lead productive, fulfilling lives.”

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