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Press Release



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Contact:

Communications Office
(603)271-2121

Governor Hassan Commends Board of Dental Examiners for Adopting Emergency Rules to Combat Opioid Crisis

CONCORD - After the Board of Dental Examiners voted yesterday to adopt emergency rules on the prescribing of opioids, Governor Maggie Hassan issued the following statement:

"Preventing the overprescribing of opioids that can lead to addiction and heroin use is an important part of our comprehensive approach to help save lives and combat the heroin epidemic, which we know stems in part from the overuse, misuse and abuse of addictive prescription opioids," Governor Hassan said. "Our medical community and prescribers across the state are helping to lead the way in our efforts to combat the crisis, and I commend the Board of Dental Examiners for joining the boards of medicine and nursing in adopting emergency rules. To build on this important step forward, we will continue working to improve provider training through the nationally recognized program that we have brought to New Hampshire and pushing for legislation requiring the boards governing all prescribers to develop and adopt permanent updated rules on the prescribing of opioids."

After working with the Governor and the Department of Justice, the Board of Medicine passed emergency rules in November that include requiring a detailed informed consent form and compliance with federal guidelines for best practices on the prescribing of opioids. The Board of Nursing passed similar rules last month, and Governor Hassan has called on all other prescribing boards to work with the Department of Justice to explore options for emergency action while the legislature considers legislation for more permanent action.

[The Board of Dental Examiners' emergency rules, which are consistent with the previous action taken by the boards of medicine and nursing](#)



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