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## **Press Release**

For Immediate Release March 28, 2016 Contact: Communications Office (603)271-2121

Statement from Governor Hassan on Federal Government's Reinstatement of Equitable Sharing Payments to Local and State Law Enforcement Under Asset Forfeiture Program

CONCORD – Governor Maggie Hassan issued the following statement on U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch's announcement that equitable sharing payments to local and state law enforcement under the Asset Forfeiture Program will be reinstated:

"Our dedicated and brave law enforcement officers are working every day to combat the heroin and opioid crisis and save lives, and the resources from the Asset Forfeiture Program are critical to their efforts to keep our communities safe. I am grateful that the federal government has reinstated this important program that helps local and state law enforcement seize illicit drugs and arrest drug dealers, and I will continue working with members from both parties to ensure that we are supporting those on the front lines of this crisis, including opposing efforts to change the state's drug forfeiture statute."

In February, Governor Hassan sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Lynch urging the federal government to reinstate equitable sharing payments to local and state law enforcement under the Asset Forfeiture Program.

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