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Press Release



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Governor Hassan's Statement on Sustained Veto of SB 320

CONCORD – Following the New Hampshire State Senate sustaining her veto of Senate Bill 320, Governor Maggie Hassan issued the following statement:

"The Department of Education routinely relies on various surveys to develop and implement programs that support students and educators throughout New Hampshire and non-profit organizations often use non-academic surveys to determine where to direct their resources, as well as to test the efficacy of existing programming. By requiring that a student opt-in to all non-academic surveys or questionnaires except for the youth risk behavior survey through written consent from a student's parent or legal guardian, Senate Bill 320 would have presented an undue burden to schools administering the survey and undoubtedly lead to unreliable survey data. Collecting unreliable survey data could create insurmountable barriers to conducting meaningful school-based research used to promote the well-being of New Hampshire children, families and communities.

"Current law already requires parental notification and opt-out provisions to protect the parent's role in survey-taking at schools. We must remain focused on collecting reliable data to make informed public policy decisions and to ensure that our students have the support and resources they need to develop the skills and innovative thinking needed for success in the 21st century economy."

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