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## Press Release



**For Immediate Release**  
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### Statement from Governor Hassan on Sustained Veto of SB 495

CONCORD – Following the New Hampshire State Senate sustaining her veto of Senate Bill 495, Governor Maggie Hassan issued the following statement:

“Senate Bill 495 would have undermined our efforts to protect public health through the Smoke-free Bar and Restaurant provision of the Indoor Smoking Act, as well as the delicate balance that we struck in 2009 when we crafted the smoking exemption for cigar bars with specific parameters to maintain fair competition under the Indoor Smoking Act. These issues would have been revealed if the non-germane amendment pertaining to cigar bars had received a public hearing, which it did not since all language related to the bill’s original purpose which had nothing to do with cigar bars was stripped by the Committee of Conference.

“Because this bill would have undermined public health and because it underwent a defective process, members of the Tobacco-Free New Hampshire Network opposed this legislation. Protecting the health and well-being of our people is critical to our economy and our state, and I will continue to work with members from both parties to build a stronger, healthier New Hampshire.”

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