****

 **news release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** June 6, 2013

**CONTACT** Anne Saunders

603.856.8337 x2

 **NHFPI: Senate Vote to Reject Federal Funds Puts Thousands of**

**NH Families and Businesses at Risk**

CONCORD – New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute Executive Director Jeff McLynch issued the following statement today after the New Hampshire Senate voted 13-11 against accepting federal funds to extend Medicaid to thousands of hard-working Granite Staters.

“Hard-working New Hampshire families would benefit from access to affordable health coverage – as would their employers and our economy as a whole. We have an unprecedented opportunity to get the federal government to pay to extend Medicaid to more low-income workers, and NHFPI will continue to work to answer any questions from lawmakers. We trust our elected officials will roll up their sleeves in conference committee, listen to their constituents and find a way to get to ‘yes’ on this important opportunity,” McLynch said.

McLynch noted a Rand Corporation study released this week that suggests states that do not choose to take these dollars face very steep increases in uncompensated care costs -- costs for treating the uninsured and under insured at local hospitals and health centers.

-30-