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**news release**

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**New Budget Represents Progress but Could Have Done More**

CONCORD – New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute Executive Director Jeff McLynch issued the following statement today after the New Hampshire House and Senate voted to pass the FY 2014-2015 state budget.

“The budget approved by the House and Senate today makes some progress in restoring investments in higher education, support to New Hampshire’s cities and towns, and protections for some of the state’s most vulnerable citizens,” he said.

“Nevertheless, it also represents a missed opportunity. Budget negotiators could not agree on the suspension of costly and ineffective business tax breaks or on other changes in tax policy.  Had they done so, they would have been able to make greater strides in improving public services, like New Hampshire’s transportation infrastructure, vital to everyone living, working, or visiting here,” he added.

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