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NH Senate Votes to Extend Health Insurance to More than 50,000 Granite Staters

CONCORD, NH – The New Hampshire Senate today by a bipartisan vote of 18 to 5 approved SB 413, the New Hampshire Health Protection Program, which will provide access to affordable health insurance to more than 50,000 low-income Granite Staters.

“Today’s Senate vote in support of SB 413 brings New Hampshire one step closer to providing affordable health insurance to thousands of low-income residents,” said Deb Fournier, policy analyst for the New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute.

“This is also an important boost for our economy and our state budget, bringing hundreds of millions of dollars into the New Hampshire economy and giving us the opportunity to save millions in the state budget,” added Fournier.

SB 413 creates a three-stage Health Protection Program to extend affordable health insurance to low income Granite Staters: the Health Insurance Premium Program, the Bridge to Marketplace Premium Assistance Program, and the Marketplace Premium Assistance Program. Federal funding will cover 100 percent of the costs associated with the Health Protection Program, which will be repealed at the end of 2016 unless future legislatures vote to extend it.

For more information, see the NHFPI Health Protection Program fact sheet:
<http://www.nhfpi.org/research/overview-2014-health-protection-program.html>

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The New Hampshire Fiscal Policy Institute (NHFPI) is an independent, non-partisan organization dedicated to exploring, developing, and promoting public policies that foster economic opportunity and prosperity for all New Hampshire residents, with an emphasis on low- and moderate-income families and individuals. Learn more at www.nhfpi.org.