



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Senator Tom Sherman Introduces Legislation to Address the Mental Health Emergency Room Boarding Crisis

CONCORD—Today, Senator Tom Sherman (D-Rye) introduced legislation to begin to address New Hampshire’s emergency room mental health crisis. Everyday there are approximately 35 individuals awaiting mental health treatment in New Hampshire emergency rooms. Senator Sherman offered the following statement regarding Senate Bill 11:

“This emergency measure will relieve pressure on our mental health system and help get patients the treatment they deserve. Currently, if you enter the emergency room with symptoms of a heart attack you get treated immediately, but if you enter the emergency room with symptoms of severe depression you may wait weeks -- that’s not right. We must address our mental health crisis through both immediate legislation and long term solutions including the 10-Year Mental Health Plan and the state budget. This legislation is a critical first step in addressing our mental health crisis.”

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