



NEW HAMPSHIRE SENATE

NEWS RELEASE

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Senate Passes Housing Package for New Hampshire

CONCORD, NH – Senator Keith Murphy (R-Manchester) released the following statement today on the Senate passing, with bipartisan support, a series of bills designed to address the ongoing housing shortage by removing red tape and obstacles that delay or stop builders from expanding the housing supply:

“We heard the voters loud and clear: the cost of housing is too high, indicating a lack of supply. Housing prices are up 59% in just the last four years. A coalition of builders, realtors, housing advocates, and employers suggested legislation to get the government out of the way and lower prices by increasing supply. For too long, regulations have made it financially impossible for builders to construct starter homes, which is exactly what our citizens need. I call upon our colleagues in the House to take up these bills and pass them without delay. These bills combined will begin to restore normalcy to the housing market and lower costs for our constituents. Our message to the construction industry, home builders, and realtors is this: “Gentlemen, start your engines.”

Background: SB 163 blocks cities and towns from blocking all new building permits.

SB 170 and SB 173 update the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program and will be assessed as an amount equal to 10% of the net rental income.

SB 174 prohibits planning boards from using the number of bedrooms to deny housing developments.

SB 281 streamlines the local permit approval process for property adjacent to class VI roads.

SB 283 requires municipalities to exclude below-grade areas, such as basements or underneath parking, from floor area ration calculations.

SB 284 limits local residential parking space mandates.

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