



GOLD STANDARD



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SENATE SESSION - THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

SB 495, relative to certification of alcohol and other drug use treatment facilities.

Finance: OTP/A 7-0

ANTI-LIBERTY: This bill creates a new certification bureaucracy targeting substance abuse treatment programs.

SB 495

**NAY
OTP/A**

- This bill establishes a new bureaucratic office and certification authority that inhibits the availability of substance abuse treatment programs.
- This bill increases the hurdles private substance abuse clinics need to go through and maintain, which will limit their availability and increase their costs. This will have the profound effect of providing less help to communities beset by those suffering from addiction.
- In 2022, there were 486 reported deaths due to drug overdose. This number has been increasing annually since 2019. This bill reduces the likelihood that those with drug addiction will be able to get help before they become another morbidity statistic (<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt476/files/documents2/dmi-oct2023.pdf>).
- The free market is the best certifier of product quality. Allowing the market to decide the effectiveness, affordability, and desirability of drug treatment centers instead of the government provides a more direct and potent solution with the best chance of saving lives.