To those whom it concerns,

The Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire recently passed the attached resolution expressing the Senate's strong disapproval of House Resolution 3404, also known as the “Safe Campus Act.” The Student Senate vehemently believes that the passage of the bill would be detrimental to survivors of sexual assault for the several reasons presented. The Student Senate respectfully requests University of New Hampshire administrators to adopt a similar stance.

Respectfully,
Gabriel Hoffman
Speaker of the University of New Hampshire Student Senate
Student Senate Resolution XXXVII – 15 Opposing the “Safe Campus Act”

Introduced by: Student Body Vice President, Ryan Grogan, Student Body President, Cameron Cook, Health and Wellness Chair, Emily Counts, Fraternity and Sorority Life Affairs Liaison, Allison Onofrio, Community Development Chair, Matthew Reuter, First Year Senator, Colleen O’Hara, Judicial Affairs Chair, Samuel Paris, Non-Traditional Student Affairs Liaison, Danny O’Leary, Academic Affairs Chair, Justin Poisson

Date: November 15th, 2015

Whereas, House Resolution 3403 referred to as the “Safe Campus Act” is currently in committee in the United States House of Representatives, and

Whereas, this bill has many elements in it that would change the way universities handle cases that fall under Title IX, and

Whereas, one of these elements is that, if passed, offices such as the Office of Community Standards would not be allowed to start an internal investigation or place sanctions on the accused perpetrators, without the survivor reporting it to the police department that oversees the university in question, and

Whereas, this bill has received a lot of attention across the country¹, and

Whereas, The University of New Hampshire is an advocate for rights of survivors of sexual assault, and

Whereas, The University of New Hampshire has been recognized by the White House for having a leading program and services for survivors of sexual assault², therefore

Be it resolved by the Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire to strongly oppose the Safe Campus Act, and

Be it further resolved that Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire strongly urges President Huddleston and other Administrators take a stance against the Safe Campus Act, and

Be it further resolved that the Student Senate of the University of New Hampshire strongly encourages the Graduate Student Senate and the Faculty Senate take a stance against the Safe Campus Act.

Senate Action: Passes with 5 abstentions
Speaker Verification: Gabriel Hoffman