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**JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

**Joint Legislative Facilities Committee Advances Public Health and Safety, Adopts State House Mask Requirement for Legislative Members and Staff**

**CONCORD** – Today, the New Hampshire Joint Committee on Legislative Facilities approved a mask mandate for all legislative staff and legislators entering the State House in a vote of 11-0. The mandate requires masks to be worn in all public areas and will take effect immediately.

**After the vote, Senate President Donna Soucy and House Speaker Steve Shurtleff issued the following statement:**

“Experts at the local and national level have made it abundantly clear - wearing a mask saves lives. The measure adopted by the Joint Facilities Committee today is a commonsense approach to protect the health and safety of members and employees. We hope the Executive Branch adopts a similar measure for the protection of every individual entering the State House because as Governor Sununu has said, we should all ‘Wear a mask to protect yourself. Wear a mask to protect others. Wear a mask to protect your community, because we all have that responsibility.’”