

## RELEASE: New Law Temporarily Permits Expanded Absentee Voting

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### New Hampshire House of Representatives Concord, New Hampshire House Majority Office

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **NEW LAW TEMPORARILY PERMITS EXPANDED ABSENTEE VOTING**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – [HB 1266](#), which implements recommendations from the Select Committee on 2020 Emergency Election Support, was signed into law today. **House Election Law Chair, Representative David E. Cote (D-Nashua)** released the following statement:

“The temporary measures included in this bill are absolutely necessary to protect the health of voters this fall. After Governor Sununu rejected legislation to permanently expand absentee voting rights, this bill temporarily permitting absentee balloting by voters concerned about exposure to COVID-19 became critical to short-term public health and election fairness.

This modest, temporary expansion of absentee voting was widely supported across the political spectrum, except in the House. Despite unanimous recommendation from a bipartisan committee on election support, unanimous bipartisan support in the Senate, and the support of Governor Sununu, the vast majority of House Republicans voted ‘no.’

If House Republicans had their way, no voter would be permitted to use concern for COVID-19 as justification to vote by absentee ballot this fall. I thank my Democratic colleagues in the House and Senate for assuring this critical voter safety legislation reached the Governor’s desk. We will continue the fight to make these commonsense changes permanent in the next legislative session, so that NH citizens will always have the ability to vote safely and conveniently.”

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Pronouns: she/her/hers