

# RELEASE: HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERS REFUSE TO HOLD LEGISLATORS ACCOUNTABLE FOR HATE SPEECH AND HARASSMENT

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

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** December 16, 2020

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### **HOUSE REPUBLICAN LEADERS REFUSE TO HOLD LEGISLATORS ACCOUNTABLE FOR HATE SPEECH AND HARASSMENT**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** –Today, the House Rules Committee voted not to allow a late-filing bill request submitted by House Democratic Leader and Rules Committee member, Representative Renny Cushing, to clarify and expand that hate speech, bullying, and all other forms of harassment are not appropriate conduct for elected officials. **Co-sponsor of the request, Representative Charlotte Dilorenzo, (D-Newmarket),** released the following statement:

“It is simply disturbing that Republican leadership chose not to allow the drafting of legislation that would hold elected officials accountable for hate speech. Words matter and votes matter. This vote today by Republican leadership is a clear and deeply disappointing denial that Rep. Dawn Johnson, in publicly sharing anti-Semitic cartoons, engaged in harmful behavior.”

“It is particularly outrageous that while thousands of Granite Staters celebrate the sacred Jewish holiday Hannukah, Republicans would double down on bolstering this act of hate speech and any future acts by New Hampshire’s legislators.”

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#### On Background:

The late-filing bill request was sponsored by Rep. Renny Cushing and co-sponsored by Rep. Gerri Cannon, Rep. David Cote, Rep. Charlotte DiLorenzo, Rep. Karen Ebel, Rep. Manny Espitia, Rep. Latha Mangipudi, Rep. Joe Schapiro, and Rep. Marjorie Smith.

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