

# RELEASE: HOUSE PASSES BILL TO SUPPORT LOCAL RESTAURANTS AND EMPOWER SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS

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

### **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **HOUSE PASSES BILL TO SUPPORT LOCAL RESTAURANTS AND EMPOWER SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – Today, the House of Representatives passed House Bill 593, legislation aimed at protecting local restaurants and empowering small businesses owners. Following the vote, **Representative Matt Wilhelm (D-Manchester)**, prime sponsor of the bill, released the following statement:

“This bill addresses an urgent issue facing small business owners who are under enormous pressure due to the pandemic. While food delivery has become a lifeline for many New Hampshire restaurants during the COVID-19 pandemic, third-party tech companies should not offer delivery service without express written consent of the restaurant. Third-party delivery services cause confusion for customers, prompting bad online reviews which lead to a decrease in orders. This domino effect has been particularly consequential for small business owners in these challenging and uncertain economic times.

Today, the House took a stand for small business owners across New Hampshire who are being taken advantage of by out-of-state tech companies funded by venture capitalists in Silicon Valley who will gladly turn a profit on the backs of New Hampshire’s restaurant owners -- even if it tarnishes their reputation or puts a few restaurants out of business in the process. It’s time to put power back in the hands of small business owners to make decisions that are right for their restaurants.”

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