



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

PRESS RELEASE

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**NH SUPREME COURT VOWS TO PROTECT GRANITE STATERS FROM
UNCONSTITUTIONAL CONGRESIONAL DISTRICTS**
Republican 'right to gerrymander' argument rejected by Court

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – Today, the New Hampshire Supreme Court ruled that it will intervene if the legislature cannot reach agreement on a constitutional rewrite of Congressional Districts, and will use a 'least change' approach to establish new districts if necessary. **House Democratic Leader Rep. David E. Cote (D-Nashua)** released the following statement:

"From the start of the redistricting process, Democrats have advocated keeping our Congressional districts fair and competitive by making the fewest adjustments needed to comply with the 2020 census. Despite the pleadings of Granite Staters – including the governor – to adopt a 'least change' approach, Republicans in the legislature have repeatedly proposed maps that displace over half the population for partisan gain.

Claiming a right to gerrymander, Republican leaders argued that the Court had no authority to intervene when unconstitutional districts are challenged. The Court rightly rejected that claim, as the judiciary clearly has the authority to intervene in the enactment of unconstitutional laws.

Court action would not be necessary if Republican lawmakers had shown any semblance of fairness in the various Congressional maps they have proposed. I fully support the Court's ruling because the people of New Hampshire should never be prevented from seeking judicial relief when their constitutional rights have been violated."

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