



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

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Date:** March 28, 2022

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**PRELIMINARY RULING DOES NOT END CASE ON REMOTE ACCESS**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – Following receipt of the First Circuit court’s denial of a request for preliminary injunction in the case of Cushing et. al v. Packard, **House Democratic Leader Rep. David Cote (D-Nashua)** released the following statement:

“Our position remains that the Speaker of the House cannot use ‘legislative immunity’ as an excuse to prevent disabled representatives from participation in the legislative process. While we are disappointed that the First Circuit denied our request for preliminary injunction, it is important to note that the court did not rule that disabled people must risk death to serve in the legislature and represent their constituents. The court’s decision only related to preliminary injunction, not the Speaker’s denial of minimal accommodations for representatives with disabilities.

We strongly believe the decision of the original panel and the powerful dissent in this case were correct and will ultimately be vindicated. Nothing except a desire to gain partisan advantage prevents the Speaker from doing the right, decent, and respectful thing. Allowing a small number of disabled representatives to attend and vote digitally would ensure that all citizens of New Hampshire are equitably represented by their legislators and that the laws passed respect the will of all Granite Staters.”