

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

March 3,2020

Dear Members of the Senate Commerce Committee,

My Administration is committed to promoting the health and economic security of our state's families, including measures that promote the health of infants and mothers. It is for those reasons, that I worked with Senator Jeb Bradley to sponsor Senate Bill (SB) 759. This bipartisan legislation promotes healthy pregnancies and economic security for pregnant mothers and their infants, while also strengthening the economy.

Despite existing protections in New Hampshire law, pregnant mothers in the workforce can still face workplace unfairness and discrimination. Too often, pregnant mothers can be essentially pushed out of their jobs through the denial of small accommodations, such as temporary transfer to a less strenuous or hazardous position, light-duty, more frequent bathroom breaks, or temporary assistance with manual labor.

SB759 would help guard against this unfairness while also promoting healthy pregnancies. We must ensure that pregnant mothers in all industries, across all races and ethnicities have the confidence that they will not suffer from retaliation, coercion, intimidation, threats or inference if they request a reasonable accommodation.

As I said in my State of the State speech a few weeks ago, no woman should be forced out of a job or denied employment opportunities simply because she is pregnant. Therefore, I ask that you support SB 759 and send it to my desk as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Sununu

Governor