



## **New Hampshire Senate** **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **New law will treat houses of worship the same as other essential services during an emergency**

CONCORD, NH – Sen. Sharon Carson (R-Londonderry), a member of the Governor’s Economic Re-Opening Task Force and the Committee of Conference for HB 542, today applauded the legislation, known as the New Hampshire Religious Liberty Act, being signed into law, and issued the following statement:

“I am extremely pleased that HB542 is now law. During any future state of emergency, due to a pandemic or other circumstances, religious organizations will be allowed to operate to the same degree as other organizations that provide essential services or are vital to public health and welfare. Under a state of emergency churches will remain open but they must comply with health, safety and occupancy requirements issued by the state or the federal government. It is important for houses of worship to be open during emergencies because many people depend on them for support, and comfort during times of crisis.

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