



New Hampshire Senate **NEWS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Carole Alfano, 603.496.0412

Bill establishing fund to increase broadband access across NH passes Senate

CONCORD, NH – A bill that will lead to increased broadband access across the state, SB85, passed the Senate today on a vote of 24-0.

Prime Sponsor and Majority Leader, Jeb Bradley (R-Wolfeboro), called SB85 an important step, saying, “The pandemic has revealed that we need significantly more broadband access, especially for New Hampshire residents who are working from home, attending school on-line, participating in tele-health visits with their doctor or just trying to stay in touch with family and friends.” He added, “This legislation establishes a first of its kind grant fund utilizing state and federal funds matched by cities and towns. This type of partnership is exactly what has been needed to significantly improve broadband to all Granite Staters.”

“The need for strong, reliable broadband service is especially critical in the rural areas of our state,” said SB85 co-sponsor Sen. Erin Hennessey (R-Littleton), who also represents District 1 that includes all of Coos County and parts of Grafton County. “Improved broadband equalizes the playing field particularly when it comes to education and business. With SB85, we are saying our state is serious about this investment for our students as well as companies thinking about relocating to New Hampshire. Better broadband can make every corner of the state appealing to them,” she said.

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