



Your State House Concord, New Hampshire



May 29, 2020

more stringent than federal rules required.

To my constituents in [Allenstown](#), [Epsom](#), & [Pittsfield](#):

This week, House committees continued working remotely. I met with the Criminal Justice committee on my HB 1580, regulating drones. They had many questions, but a friend on the committee told me they'd had no real issue with the penalties, which was their main responsibility, and they recommended it to pass.

I also met with the Judiciary committee on HB 1642, prohibiting face recognition programs. This was a lot tougher; one group was concerned that these programs would not be able to be used to identify victims; another that it might hamper police investigations (well, yes, that's the point!) Others just didn't like the bill for some reason. I worked with the sponsor and some committee members on an amendment that greatly simplified the bill while keeping the main points: the police would need a warrant to use this technology, and the DMV database would not be used for any reason. I got drafted to replace a committee member who'd had a death in the family, so I got to argue with them about the amendment. With three of us in favor and five vocally opposed (the others were mostly silent), the vote was 8-11 on adopting the amendment, and 12-7 in favor of killing the bill. I did get some tips on improving it for next year, at least!

My committee met on HB 1692, requiring a license for selling wild mushrooms. As expected, we recommended it to pass, since federal regulations on restaurants and even on farmers' markets forbid the sale of foraged mushrooms unless the seller is licensed by the state. The vote was 15-4, with the other opponents concerned that the cost was undefined and our regulations were

Remote meetings are a lot less useful than in-person, and I'm hoping that we can resume meeting in person, at least at the committee level. The less formal a meeting is, the worse video is a substitute for being together, especially as the number of participants grows. A remote work session of four or five people works well enough, as does a formal meeting of a dozen or so, but after that the usefulness falls off fast. One House committee is meeting next week for a remote public hearing on a bill, and I might drop in to see how it works.

I'm filing for reelection in the same district. If anyone is interested, the filing period is June 3-12. The requirements are being a registered voter (in the party you're signing up with, in the district you're running in) and resident two years in New Hampshire, plus filling out two forms and paying \$2. And, of course, convincing most of the voters to vote for you! Call me if you want more information.



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