



500 Market St. Portsmouth, NH 03801  
PortsmouthCollaborative.org

January 18, 2026

Dear Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

On behalf of the Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth, representing more than 750 businesses across the Seacoast region, I write in strong support of HB 1102 and its intent to advance innovation and long-term economic competitiveness in New Hampshire.

Strategic, forward-looking investment has proven to be money well spent in our state, and the rapid growth of New Hampshire's life sciences industry is a clear example. Over the past decade, targeted public and private investment has helped cultivate a sector that now delivers high-wage jobs, attracts national and global talent, drives research and commercialization, and strengthens our tax base without placing undue strain on local infrastructure. These outcomes did not happen by chance—they are the result of deliberate policy choices that recognized innovation as an economic driver, not an expense.

HB 1102 builds on this successful model. By supporting further innovation, the bill positions New Hampshire to remain competitive with neighboring states that are aggressively investing in emerging industries, technology, and workforce development. In today's economy, states that fail to invest in innovation risk losing both businesses and talent to regions that do.

For communities like Portsmouth and the greater Seacoast, innovation-driven growth supports not only large employers but also small businesses, contractors, service providers, and educational institutions that benefit from a diversified and resilient economy. The return on investment is measurable: stronger job growth, increased private-sector capital investment, and a more adaptable workforce prepared for the future.

We respectfully urge the House Ways and Means Committee to support HB 1102 and continue New Hampshire's track record of smart, strategic investments that fuel innovation, strengthen our economy, and ensure long-term prosperity for our residents and businesses.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued service to the State of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Ben VanCamp  
President & Chief Collaborator  
Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth