



DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

January 21, 2026

Hon. Erica Layon, Chair
And Members of the House Executive Departments Committee
Granite Place, Room 231
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 1458 (Licensing and Inspection Requirements for Massage Establishments)

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

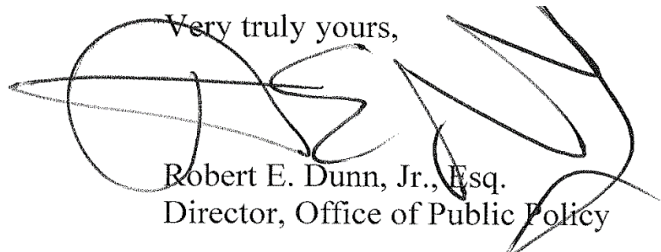
As Director of Public Policy for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Manchester, and on behalf of Bishop Peter Libasci, I write to respectfully register our support for HB 1458.

The Catholic Church at both the local and international levels considers human trafficking to be one of the great evils of our age. “Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society...It is a crime against humanity.” Pope Francis, *Address to the Participants in the International Conference on Combating Human Trafficking*, April 10, 2014. “The whole of society is called to grow in this awareness, especially with regard to national and international legislation, in order to prosecute the traffickers and redirect their unjust gains to the rehabilitation of the victims.” Pope Francis, *Address to the Participants in the Plenary Session of the Pontifical Academy of the Social Sciences*, April 18, 2005.

HB 1458, like HB 1469, would continue the critical work of countering the scourge of human trafficking in New Hampshire. As demonstrated by the many people who testified at the hearings on those bills, our state is fortunate to have a unified commitment on this front from law enforcement, state and local lawmakers and officials, health care providers, and advocates. For the reasons well-expressed at the hearings, we believe that HB 1458 will promote human dignity and the common good. Therefore, we ask that you recommend the passage of HB 1458.

Thank you for your kind consideration of our views.

Very truly yours,



Robert E. Dunn, Jr., Esq.
Director, Office of Public Policy