



# New Hampshire House of Representatives

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## Speaker Sherman A. Packard

### **For Immediate Release**

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### **From the Office of the Speaker:**

#### **Speaker Packard Responds to DHS Decision on Merrimack ICE Facility**

CONCORD, NH – Speaker Sherman A. Packard released the following statement after Governor Ayotte announced DHS will not move forward with the proposed ICE facility in Merrimack:

*“I commend Governor Ayotte for her direct engagement with federal officials and for working diligently behind the scenes to ensure New Hampshire’s concerns were heard. Her leadership and willingness to have productive conversations made a difference.*

*This proposal generated strong opinions, but governing requires steady leadership, not performative politics. We must allow the process to work and give leaders the space to resolve issues thoughtfully, rather than rushing to score partisan points.*

*Public safety remains a top priority for the House. I look forward to continued cooperation between state and federal partners to protect our communities while respecting the needs of our towns and cities.”*

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