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House and Senate Ways and Means Chairs React to Treasury Warning that New Hampshire Faces a Potential Credit Downgrade Due to Budget Veto

CONCORD—Yesterday, the New Hampshire State Treasurer, Bill Dwyer, shared reports that point to the potential of New Hampshire facing a downgrade in our credit rating due to Governor Sununu's budget veto. In response, Senate Ways and Means Chair **Dan Feltes (D-Concord)** and House Ways and Means Chair **Susan Almy (D-Lebanon)** released the following statement:

"Governor Sununu's fiscally irresponsible veto of our entire state budget, just to get even more of his tax breaks for corporations, is now putting our state's credit rating at risk. In addition, Governor Sununu has yet to even get a contract with state employees and we are now facing declining business tax revenues following his budget veto.

The Governor demands not only that we continue to cut state revenues, but that we the legislature also decide which essential services should be cut to fulfill his demand, so we may "live within our means". Yesterday, we spent hours listening to the damage done by the budget veto to mental health and addiction treatment, and services to keep frail elders and people with disabilities in their communities and out of expensive institutions. When the state cuts its means, the state's citizens and businesses lose services they need to prosper and help our state prosper. We need to be strong stewards of the state's fiscal health, and Governor Sununu's fixation on even more corporate tax breaks just isn't doing that job."

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