

## STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 16, 2019

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 67

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, I have vetoed Senate Bill 67, relative to the definitions of resident and residency.

This bill would undermine House Bill 1264, a bill I signed in 2018 which put every voter in New Hampshire on equal footing by making all those who vote in New Hampshire subject to the same legal requirements. New Hampshire now aligns with virtually every other state in requiring residency in order to vote. House Bill 1264 restored equality and fairness to our elections, and the Supreme Court ruled the bill is constitutional while affirming that New Hampshire had a compelling state interest in seeing the bill enacted. Senate Bill 67 would take us back to the days of unequal treatment of voters. Allowing that to happen would be a dereliction of my duty to uphold the provisions of our State Constitution that mandate equal protection under the law.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 67.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher T. Sununu

Governor