



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

July 12, 2019

Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 349

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 12th, 2019 I have vetoed House Bill 349, relative to a second opinion on health care matters for state and county prisoners.

Our prisons and jails have a legal and ethical obligation to provide adequate care to the inmates in their custody. This bill would require prisons and jails to allow an inmate to seek a second medical opinion when the inmate, or someone acting on their behalf, has the financial means to pay for it. Though well intentioned, this requirement would present administrative burdens, liability risks, and constitutional concerns, none of which have been adequately addressed in the text of the bill.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 349.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor