



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 2017-09

An order establishing the Governor's Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion

WHEREAS, New Hampshire derives strength and prosperity from valuing the diversity of its population and its commitment to equal justice for all; and

WHEREAS, when New Hampshire draws on the strengths and talents of individuals who reflect its full population, it is better able to understand and meet the needs of its residents and their differences; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire has an obligation to enforce and safeguard the civil rights of all New Hampshire residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire enacted RSA 354-A and created the Commission for Human Rights to eliminate discrimination based on age, sex, sexual orientation, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability or national origin in employment, public accommodations, and the sale or rental of housing or commercial property; and

WHEREAS, when New Hampshire passed RSA 354-A and created the Commission for Human Rights, it declared that the prevention of discrimination is "a matter of state concern" and that discrimination "menaces the institutions and foundation of a free democratic state and threatens the peace, order, health, safety and general welfare of the state and its inhabitants"; and

WHEREAS, New Hampshire must continue to engage in an ongoing and comprehensive discussion regarding further steps that it must take to ensure that all New Hampshire residents are free of discrimination and have a full and meaningful opportunity to participate and prosper in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, by the authority vested in me pursuant to part II, article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. There is established the Governor's Advisory Council on Diversity and Inclusion. The Council shall work cooperatively with the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, the Civil Rights Unit of the New Hampshire Department of Justice, and any other relevant State entities to:

- a) Review and analyze New Hampshire laws, regulations, and agency policies and procedures, and recommend changes or amendments, where necessary, to further combat discrimination and advance the ends of diversity and inclusion;
- b) Identify and recommend ways in which the State can support local and community efforts, through educational programs or otherwise, to combat discrimination and advance diversity and inclusion;
- c) Identify and recommend ways in which the State can partner with non-governmental organizations to combat discrimination and advance diversity and inclusion; and
- d) Identify and recommend revisions to RSA 354-A and the scope of the duties of the Commission for Human Rights to combat discrimination and advance diversity and inclusion.

2. In its first year, the Council shall host a series of community forums across the State to take public input and suggestions on issues within the Council's charge.

3. The Council shall meet at least monthly and shall submit to the Governor, on or before June 1st of the year 2018 and on or before December 1st of every year thereafter, a report which summarizes the Council's activities during the calendar year and any recommendations that the Council develops.

4. The Council shall consist of the following members:

- a) Attorney General, or designee;
- b) Commissioner of the Department of Safety, or designee;
- c) Commissioner of the Department of Education, or designee;
- d) Chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire, or designee;
- e) Chancellor of the Community College System of New Hampshire, or designee;
- f) Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services, or designee;
- g) Commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services, or designee;
- h) Commissioner of the Department of Labor, or designee;
- i) Chair of the New Hampshire Commission for Human Rights, or designee;
- j) Representative from the New Hampshire ACLU, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor;
- k) Representative from the New Hampshire Police Chiefs Association, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor;
- l) Representative from the New Hampshire Sheriffs Association, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor;

- m) Representative from the New Hampshire Municipal Association, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor;
- n) Two public members with leadership experience in cultural competency, diversity, and inclusion, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor;
- o) Two additional members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor; and
- p) One additional member who shall serve as Chair of the Commission, appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.

5. The Council may, as it deems appropriate, organize its membership into subcommittees for the purpose of examining specific topics within the Council's charge.

6. A majority of appointed Council members shall constitute a quorum, and all official actions of the Council shall require a majority vote of those present and voting.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 14th day of December, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and seventeen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-one.


GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE