



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

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

August 10, 2021

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 141

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on August 10th, 2021, I have vetoed Senate Bill 141, relative to the procedure for conducting firearm background checks.

As Governor, my record is very clear – I have consistently defended the 2nd amendment rights of New Hampshire's citizens and I remain committed to doing so. New Hampshire's laws are well-crafted and fit our culture of responsible gun ownership and individual freedom. This bill is not about firearms rights, it is about government administrative processes. This bill, which was introduced to solve a problem caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, is no longer necessary. New Hampshire has taken steps to improve technology, processes, and staffing in order to address this issue without legislation.

This bill would create substantial unintended negative consequences by ceding control of our state process to the Federal Government. Groups as diverse as the New Hampshire Firearms Coalition, the New Hampshire Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Attorney General's Office, and the Judicial Branch all join me in raising significant concerns with this legislation.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 141.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor