



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

July 17, 2020

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 122

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 17, 2020, I have vetoed Senate Bill 122, relative to expenditures from the energy efficiency fund.

I am disappointed that the legislature is jeopardizing the longstanding Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) compromise yet again by trying to eliminate ratepayer rebates. This has become an annual exercise of attempting to strip away rebates for residential ratepayers, which is especially problematic during this pandemic.

This bill suffers from the same fatal defects as House Bill 582 from last session. This bill unjustly favors businesses over residential ratepayers. This bill eliminates RGGI costs for commercial and industrial customers while saddling residential ratepayers with a bill increase to fund state spending. In essence, it attempts to buy off businesses at the expense of our most vulnerable citizens.

I continue to support the existing RGGI funding allocation, which provides direct bill support to all ratepayers through rebates and funds energy efficiency programs in the state. This complimentary mix is a system that works for New Hampshire ratepayers, especially those who can least afford to bear the cost of higher energy bills.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 122.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor