



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

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

July 31, 2020

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 7

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 31st, 2020, I have vetoed Senate Bill 7, establishing the secure modern accurate registration act (SMART Act).

New Hampshire has a very accessible voter registration process. Voters have the option of in-person registration with town clerks, same-day registration on Election Day and the ability to register by absentee for those with disabilities or who will be temporarily absent on election day. Moreover, for the 2020 election cycle, individuals are able to register to vote by absentee if they are concerned about COVID-19. This ease of registering to vote in New Hampshire is reflected in the high percentage of eligible voting age individuals who are able to register and vote every year.

Senate Bill 7 offers a national one-size-fits-all solution in search of a problem. This bill would take a system that already works well and add a convoluted, inefficient, and expensive process on top of it. New Hampshire has a robust tradition of civic engagement and this bill will not add to it.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 7.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor