



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

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

July 26, 2024

Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 1187

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 26, 2024, I have vetoed House Bill 1187 relative to prohibiting lease agreements of equipment for building or facility improvements.

This bill would effectively prohibit the use of municipal leases to acquire fixtures, a practice that is both common and beneficial to municipalities and businesses alike. While the proponents of this bill have raised examples of certain scenarios in which such agreements have been purportedly misused, the offered legislation would, without exception, undercut municipalities' opportunity to explore such agreements in the search of advantageous timing and financing terms.

Municipalities have ever evolving needs, from school boilers to energy efficiency projects, that must be secured more frequently than bonding opportunities permit. These decisions must still go through multiple layers of approval offering the opportunity for public input and as such, this bill would unnecessarily tie the hands of our local communities.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 1187.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher T. Sununu
Governor