

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By His Excellency*  
*Christopher T. Sununu, Governor*

*A PROCLAMATION*

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Seventeen

2017 THE YEAR OF THE LION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

**WHEREAS**, A group of Chicago business leaders gathered in 1917 and as a result Lions Clubs International was born. Led by founder insurance executive Melvin Jones the association grew quickly and became international in 1920 when Canada joined; and

**WHEREAS**, It was Helen Keller, who gave the group their cause when she challenged Lions to be her “*Knights of the Blind*” in 1925; and

**WHEREAS**, In June of 1923, Lionism was born in New Hampshire with the chartering of the Manchester Lions Club; and

**WHEREAS**, Since that time, the Lions of New Hampshire has sent six of their members to the International Board of Directors, 1957-59 Frank Buckley, 1965-67 Philip Peters, 1984-86 Larry Emerton, 1995-97 Porter Schoff, 2007-09 Ed Lecius and 2014-16 Ed Farrington; and

**WHEREAS**, With the chartering of the Barrington Lions Club in February, the state will boast 77 clubs with over 24-hundred Lions serving the citizens of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Council Chair Scott Wilson, along with District Governors Christine Greenwood and Al Goldstein are serving as the leadership for this special year.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**, of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **2017** as **THE YEAR OF THE LION IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** and encourage our citizens to support them in their work on behalf of all residents.

Given this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and seventeen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-one.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

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Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor