



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

May 20, 2022

Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 1131

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on May 20, 2022, I have vetoed House Bill 1131, an act relative to facial covering policies for schools.

Just because we may not like a local decision, does not mean we should remove their authority. One of the State's foremost responsibilities is to know the limits of its power.

As Granite Staters, we take pride in local control and our bottom-up approach to education. Similar to our fight to retain states' rights against a bloated and ever-encroaching federal government, we have a responsibility to ensure the State minimizes its infringement on local control. Big government is never the solution, and neither is a one-size-fits-all approach.

The State must remain steadfast in protecting local control as decisions like this are best left to authorities closest to parents and families where they can work with their neighbors to decide what is right for their children.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 1131.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor