



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

May 31, 2023

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 51

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on May 31, 2023, I have vetoed Senate Bill 51, creating a commission to study charitable gaming and historical horse races and relative to the moratorium on licensed historical horse racing facilities.

In New Hampshire, we cherish small and limited government that is accountable to the people and does not pick winners and losers. Senate Bill 51 goes against that small government philosophy and continues the practice of only allowing game operators that held a license in 2020 to apply for historic horse racing (HHR) licenses. In other words, despite significant demand for licenses from potential new operators, Senate Bill 51 would continue state government's practice of hand-picking who is eligible for HHR licenses until at least 2026.

If this bill becomes law, the entities that benefit from this misguided government policy will be back again in 2026 to ask for another extension. It is up to us to uphold New Hampshire's small government spirit and allow the free market to thrive.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 51.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor