



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

June 29, 2023

Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 342

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on June 29, 2023, I have vetoed House Bill 342, relative to lead testing in children.

While I acknowledge the importance of blood lead level testing in children, this bill is redundant. Both RSA 130-A:-a and RSA 130-A:5-c require health care providers and parents or legal guardians to have blood lead level testing on children who are residing in New Hampshire at the ages of one and two. This bill raises the threshold for children who enroll in New Hampshire's public schools and is an unnecessary barrier to entry. This bill may also incentivize future legislatures to require additional blood testing requirements for New Hampshire's kids attending public school.

All New Hampshire children shall have access to public education and the legislature should not require New Hampshire schools to place a redundant statutory requirement on a form for entry whereby creating an unnecessary check on parents. Blood lead level testing is incredibly important for both health care providers, parents, and guardians, but has no place on entry forms for schools and day cares.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 342.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor