



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

July 10, 2024

Governor's Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 543

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on July 10, 2024, I have vetoed Senate Bill 543, establishing the state environmental adaptation, resilience, and innovation council.

New Hampshire's commitment to environmental conservation and preservation has been strong, responsible, and successful. However, this bill would do little to continue those efforts. While the stated goals of the Council created by this bill may be well-intentioned, they are ultimately overly broad, vague, and impotent. The Council's structure and uncertain funding seems destined to make the efforts of many government employees unproductive and wasteful.

I am proud of my administration's dedication to New Hampshire's environment and people. Alongside the legislature, we have responsibly balanced the needs of our citizens with our responsibility to future generations. Upon close inspection, this bill does not embody that balance. If the legislature wants to expand government in the realm of environmental protection, they should do so with clear purpose and actionable direction to the executive branch, taking careful consideration of structure, resources, and mission. Anything less will lead to waste, mixed messages, and missed opportunities.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 543.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor