

# RELEASE: Governor Vetoes Protections for Vulnerable Adults



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**New Hampshire House of Representatives**

**Concord, New Hampshire**

**House Majority Office**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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## **GOVERNOR VETOES PROTECTIONS FOR VULNERABLE ADULTS**

**CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE** – On Friday July 19, Governor Sununu vetoed [HB 696](#), establishing a protective order for vulnerable adults.

**Representative Lucy Weber (D-Walpole), Chair of the House Health, Human Services, and Elderly Affairs Committee**, released the following statement:

“Governor Sununu’s veto message argues that extending much-needed protection from exploitation and abuse to our seniors and other vulnerable adults somehow diminishes the existing protections for victims of domestic violence. This makes no sense and serves only to pit one set one set of advocates and victims against another. By vetoing HB 696, the Governor has chosen to leave these victims at the mercy of their abusers.”

**Representative Renny Cushing (D-Hampton), Chair of the House Criminal Justice Committee** and prime sponsor of the legislation, released the following statement:

“Governor Sununu cites 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment concerns as a reason for vetoing HB 696, which allows confiscation of a firearm only if there is probable cause to believe that firearm has already been used to abuse a vulnerable adult. This is a common-sense reaction to a known dangerous situation.

I firmly believe that the civil rights and liberties of our most vulnerable citizens deserve at least as much protection as the civil rights or their exploiters or abusers and am disheartened that the Governor chose to turn his back on vulnerable adults.”

# # #

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