

RELEASE: SUNUNU CAPS OFF MOST PARTISAN TERM OF ANY GOVERNOR IN NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY

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📎 1 attachments (445 KB)

Veto comparisons of Gov. Shaheen, Lynch, Hassan and Sununu.pdf;



New Hampshire House of Representatives Concord, New Hampshire House Majority Office

PRESS RELEASE

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SUNUNU CAPS OFF MOST PARTISAN TERM OF ANY GOVERNOR IN NEW HAMPSHIRE HISTORY

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE –Today, Governor Sununu concluded his actions on legislation passed in the 2020 session by vetoing four bills and signing none. In total, Sununu vetoed 22 bills this year and 79 over the two-year term. No other governor in New Hampshire history has vetoed more than 15 bills in a single year.

House Majority Leader Doug Ley (D-Jaffrey) released the following statement:

“Governor Sununu’s partisanship this term has been a major detriment to New Hampshire. On issue after issue, Governor Sununu has chosen politics over working together to help Granite Staters, vetoing far more bills than any other governor in New Hampshire history.

New Hampshire voters expect their elected officials to work across party lines to move our state forward. Like Governor Sununu, Governors Shaheen, Lynch, and Hassan all served with a legislature controlled by the other party. While Governors Shaheen, Lynch, and Hassan all worked across the aisle to implement the will of the voters, Governor Sununu has served only as a partisan roadblock by smashing veto records this term.

Well over half the bills that Governor Sununu rejected had bipartisan support in the legislature. Whether the issue was family and medical leave, a moderate minimum wage increase, expanding clean energy and public transportation, or ending partisan gerrymandering, Governor Sununu chose to stand in the way. Granite

Staters will unfortunately suffer because their refused to put partisanship aside.

Governor Sununu likes to act like a moderate at his daily press conferences, but his 79 vetoes show he is the most partisan governor New Hampshire has had.”

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On Background:

- Governor Sununu vetoed 22 (36%) bills out of 61 sent to him during the 2020 session. He vetoed 57 bills during the 2019 session, breaking the previous record of 15 vetoes in one year by Governor Lynch during the 2012 session.
 - Of the 22 vetoed bills, only 3 were purely partisan. The other 19 either had bipartisan sponsors, bipartisan support in the House and/or Senate, or both.
- When compared to other NH Governors who were in office when the opposing party controlled both the House and Senate, Governor Sununu vetoed not only the highest number of bills but also a significantly higher percentage of the total bills sent to him.
- Governor Sununu vetoed 17.1% of the bills sent to him during the 2019-2020 term. Compared to only 1.1% when Republicans were in control of the legislature during his first term as governor in 2017-2018.
 - The next highest percentage of vetoes by a governor was Governor Lynch during the 2011-2012 term where he vetoed 4.9% of the bills sent to him.
- Please see the attached graphs prepared by the House Majority Office for additional reference.

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