Exhibit 1

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 9, 2019

Governor's Veto Message Regarding House Bill 706

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on August 9th, 2019, I have vetoed House Bill 706, establishing an independent redistricting commission.

The New Hampshire Constitution directs the legislature to determine legislative and Executive Council districts. The drafters of our Constitution were wise to vest such authority in the people's elected representatives who are accountable to the voters every two years. The members of the commission proposed by House Bill 706 would be unelected and unaccountable to the voters. Legislators should not abrogate their responsibility to the voters and delegate authority to an unelected and unaccountable commission selected by political party bosses.

We should all be proud that issues of gerrymandering are extremely rare in New Hampshire. Our current redistricting process is fair and representative of the people of our State. While I do not question the sincerity of the legislators who support House Bill 706, one of the partisan out-of-state organizations pushing for this legislation states that its mission is to "favorably position Democrats for the redistricting process." This is very concerning and undermines House Bill 706's stated goal of creating "fair" electoral districts.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed House Bill 706.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

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