September 6, 2019

Governor’s Veto Message Regarding Senate Bill 99

By the authority vested in me, pursuant to part II, Article 44 of the New Hampshire Constitution, on September 6th, 2019, I have vetoed Senate Bill 99, relative to gainful employment and partial disability in workers' compensation.

New Hampshire’s current workers’ compensation laws allow for compensation for injured employees while encouraging the return to the workforce. Research shows that transition from disability back to work provides significant benefits to employee outcomes. This bill redefines gainful employment to require similar pay. This was not part of any past consideration, and it will likely result in additional costs to the workers compensation system. These costs would likely be passed on to our business owners through their annual workers compensation premium.

For the reasons stated above, I have vetoed Senate Bill 99.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor