

**State of New Hampshire**

**By His Excellency**

**Craig R. Benson, Governor**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 2004-5**

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE REGARDING  
THE HUMANE TREATMENT OF ANIMALS**

WHEREAS, domesticated animals provide support, companionship and assistance to many citizens of the State of New Hampshire;

WHEREAS, failure to provide proper care for domestic animals is troubling and abuse of such animals is both unacceptable and criminal; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have documented the connection between violence against animals and violence against humans; and

WHEREAS, the prevention of animal abuse is important to the safety and welfare of New Hampshire citizens; and

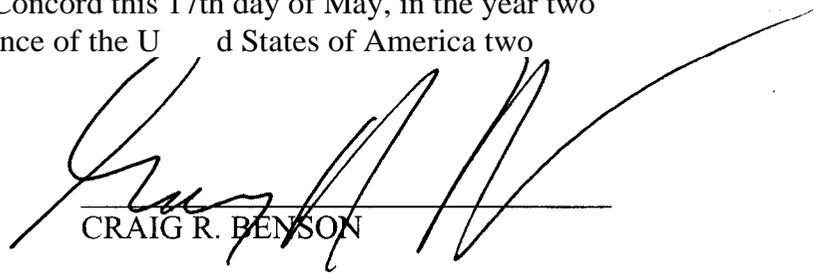
WHEREAS, it is necessary for the State to perform a thorough analysis and review of all statutory provisions, administrative rules and regulations, and State, community and private programs in order to ensure that there are effective means in place to address the humane treatment of animals in New Hampshire.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, CRAIG R. BENSON, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order that:

1. There is established the Governor's Task Force on the humane treatment of animals. The Task Force shall evaluate the extent and causes of animal abuse in New Hampshire; perform a thorough analysis of all statutory administrative rules, and State, community and private programs that address animal abuse; and provide recommendations to the Governor on ways to better prevent and address animal abuse in New Hampshire.

2. The Task Force shall consist of the following members: Four citizens appointed by the Governor who are informed and concerned about animal abuse prevention; the State Veterinarian; the Executive Director of the Fish & Game Department or his designee; the President of the N. H. Police Chiefs or his designee; the Director of the New England Regional office of the Humane Society of the United States or her designee; the Director of the New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations or her designee; the Director of the UNH Cooperative Extension or his designee; the President of the New Hampshire Veterinary Medical Association or his designee; A municipal official nominated by the Municipal Association and appointed by the Governor; the Attorney General or his designee; a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House and a member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate. The Chairperson shall be designated by the Governor.

Given at the Executive Chambers in Concord this 17th day of May, in the year two thousand and four, and the independence of the United States of America two hundred and twenty eight.



CRAIG R. BENSON

GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

