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**ATTORNEY GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

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CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301-6397

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ATTORNEY GENERAL

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November 6, 2019

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, NH 03301

Your Excellency and Members of the Council:

REQUESTED ACTION

That approval be and hereby is given to the Attorney General to grant a salary increase to Heather A. Cherniske, as an Assistant Attorney General (Position 9U541, Appropriation #02-20-20-200510-2610-013-500132), from a salary level of \$75,500 to a salary level of \$84,000 **retroactive** to July 1, 2019 upon Governor and Executive Council approval.

EXPLANATION

In accordance with the 2001 N.H. Laws Chapter 158, Section 101, and 2018 N.H. Laws Chapter 162, Section 14, this request seeks your approval to grant a salary increase for Assistant Attorney General Heather A. Cherniske. This item is **retroactive** because funds in the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 biennium budget were not available to submit this request prior to July 1, 2019.

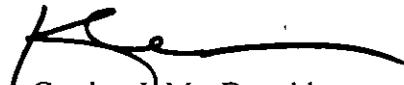
Ms. Cherniske is a resident of Henniker. In 2010 she received her law degree from the University of New Hampshire School of Law where she was a Daniel Webster Scholar. She was an Assistant City Prosecutor for the City of Concord from September 2011 to October 2013. On October 18, 2013, she joined the Department of Justice as an attorney in the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, and she was appointed as an Assistant Attorney General on October 15, 2014. In April 2015, Ms. Cherniske became an Unemployment Fraud Prosecutor for the Department of Employment Security. In this position, she was embedded in the Criminal Justice Bureau. In October 2018, Ms. Cherniske rejoined the Department of Justice in the Criminal Justice Bureau where she has handled public integrity, drug trafficking and homicide prosecutions. Her salary will increase by \$8,500, from \$75,500 to \$84,000. I will continue her assignment as an Assistant Attorney General in the Criminal Justice Bureau.

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RSA 94:1-a(I)(c)(3) provides that designation of positions, salary levels, and salary increases for attorneys at the Department of Justice shall be determined by the Attorney General, subject to approval of the Governor and Council, within appropriations made to the Department of Justice.

I respectfully urge your favorable consideration of this request. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Gordon J. MacDonald
Attorney General

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