



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
BY HIS EXCELLENCY
CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

Executive Order 2017-04

An order re-establishing the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals

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

WHEREAS, abuse of domesticated animals is both unacceptable and criminal, and will not be tolerated in the State of New Hampshire; and

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

WHEREAS, a Governor's Task Force Regarding the Humane Treatment of Animals was established by Executive Order 2004-5 and then re-established by Executive Orders 2006-03 and 2016-01; and

WHEREAS, changes to the Commission are necessary in order to enable the Commission to operate more effectively and efficiently.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, 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 hereby established the Governor's Commission on the Humane Treatment of Animals. The Commission shall:

- a) Prepare a biennial report for the Governor that documents
 - 1) the number of animal-cruelty related convictions in that time period;
 - 2) the number of animal-cruelty related cases in that time period;
 - 3) relevant proposed legislation and changes in statute and administrative rules; and
 - 4) suggested legislation as necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of domestic animals, wildlife and New Hampshire citizens.
- b) Research, evaluate and determine possible funding sources for animal-cruelty related costs. Funding needs could include, but not be limited to: the housing, transportation, and care for

seized animals; professional training; law enforcement and judicial system costs related to cruelty cases.

- c) Research, evaluate and support legislation to prevent and address animal cruelty and neglect.
- d) Maintain a Commission website that includes access to the Commission's Animal Cruelty Law Enforcement Resources Document.

2. The Commission shall consist of the following members who shall be nominated by the organization listed for appointment by, and to serve at the pleasure of, the Governor:

- a) Three New Hampshire citizens who are informed and concerned about animal abuse prevention;
- b) A cruelty investigator employed by a licensed humane society;
- c) A representative from a national humane organization who is a resident of New Hampshire;
- d) A member of the Animal Control Officers Association of New Hampshire;
- e) A representative of the New Hampshire Police Chiefs Association;
- f) A representative of the New Hampshire Federation of Humane Organizations;
- g) The New Hampshire state veterinarian of designee;
- h) A representative of the New Hampshire Veterinary Medical Association;
- i) A member of a New Hampshire equine association or organization;
- j) A member representing canine owner interests, nominated jointly by the New Hampshire musher's association and the Dog Owners of the Granite State;
- k) A representative of the New Hampshire Veterinary Technician Association;
- l) A representative from the UNH Cooperative Extension;
- m) A state representative recommended by the Speaker of the House; and
- n) A state senator recommended by the Senate President.

3. The Governor shall appoint the chair from the membership. The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chair but not less than eight times per calendar year. A quorum shall consist of eight members, and decisions of the Commission shall require the approval of a majority of those members present and voting.

4. Executive Order 2016-01 is hereby withdrawn and is replaced by this Executive Order, which shall be effective immediately.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 17th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and seventeen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-one.


GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE