



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

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

July 27, 2023

Mr. Samuel Rosario, LICSW  
Chair, Board of Mental Health Practice  
7 Eagle Square  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Rosario,

On August 1, 2021, I signed HB 143 into law, requiring the Board of Mental Health Practice to adopt rules to implement several new license types: conditional licenses for clinical social workers, mental health workers, and marriage and family therapists; licensed social worker; and licensed social work associates. Establishing these license types is critical to addressing the mental health workforce shortage in NH.

Two years have passed since I signed HB 143 into law. It has come to my attention that the Board has failed to execute its statutory obligation to establish licensing requirements for these license types. As a result, qualified mental health workers cannot be reimbursed by private insurance carriers for mental health services. The Board's dereliction of duty, particularly given the mental health workforce shortage impacting our State, is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

I am directing the Board to take all steps necessary to file a rulemaking proposal implementing HB 143 no later than September 1, 2023. I have also directed Executive Director Courtney to provide necessary rulemaking support. If the Board is unwilling or incapable of fulfilling their responsibilities, I will take necessary steps pursuant to RSA 4:1 to ensure that the Board is comprised of individuals who are so capable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor