

Voting Members:

David Packard
Chair
NH Lakes Assn.

Bruce Allen
Conservation
Commissions

Mark Borrin
Tourism Industry

Shane Bradt
Scientific Community

Linda Brownson
State Conservation
Committee

Edmund Crawford
Marine Trades
Association

Tiffany Grade
Conservation
Community

Janet Kidder (*pend.*)
Planning Boards

Frank Lemay
NH BIA

Ernest Millette
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Rex Norman
Municipal Official

Dick Smith
Fishing Interests

Mary Truell
NH Association of
Realtors

Non-Voting Members:

Garret Graaskamp
Vice Chair
NH Fish & Game Dept.

Capt. Tim Dunleavy
NH Dept. of Safety

Eric Feldbaum
NH Dept. of Natural and
Cultural Resources

Jennifer Gilbert
NH Office of Strategic
Initiatives

Mark Hemmerlein
NH Dept. of Trans.

**David Rousseau/
Bob Wolff**
NH Dept. of
Ag, Markets & Food

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Manager

Jen Drociak
Watershed Coordinator

Mariah Mitchell
Program Assistant

N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program
N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

January 22, 2019

The Honorable Suzanne Smith, Chair
Resources, Recreation, and Development
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 219 *Relative to membership on the Structures on Non-tidal Public Waterways Commission.*

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 219, which will remove a member of the Structures on Non-tidal Public Waterways Commission and redefines a quorum for the commission. The LMAC opposes HB 219.

Reducing the quorum requirement for the Structures on Non-tidal Public Waterways Commission to seven, which is less than the majority of the current 18 or proposed 17 members, will result in decisions and recommendations being made by the commission that do not represent the opinions of a majority of the interests that the commission represents. This may lead to policy making that is not in the best interests of New Hampshire's lakes, ponds, and citizens, as relevant voices will not be heard. Reducing the quorum to less than half of the members also sets a poor precedent for other boards, commissions, and committees who make important decisions on behalf of New Hampshire's citizens. The LMAC has no opinion on the elimination of the commission seat representing the recreational boating community that is not a waterfront property owner.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483-A, the Lakes Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is comprised of 19 members representing academia, business, conservation organizations, lake associations, tourism, fish and game commission, marine trades, realtors, municipal government as well as several state agencies. Among its other responsibilities, the LMAC reviews legislation relevant to the Program and the state's lakes and ponds, and advises the NHDES Commissioner on the merits of such legislation.

In conclusion, the LMAC opposes HB 219 because it redefines a quorum which would not be representative of the full commission and may therefore affect decision and policy making.

The Honorable Suzanne Smith
Chair, Resources, Recreation, and Development
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Should you have further questions about this testimony, please feel free to contact me at (603) 867-9299 or appliedforce52@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



David Packard
Chair

ec: Rep. Andrew Renzullo
LMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Rene Pelletier, Assistant Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES