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David Packard
Chair
NH Lakes Assn.

Bruce Allen
Conservation
Commissions

Mark Borrin
Tourism Industry

Shane Bradt
Scientific Community

Edmund Crawford
Marine Trades
Association

Tiffany Grade
Conservation
Community

Janet Kidder
Planning Boards

Frank Lemay
NH BIA

Lisa Morin
State Conservation
Committee (*pending*)

Rex Norman
Municipal Official

Dick Smith
Fishing Interests

Bruce Temple
NH Fish & Game
Commission (*pending*)

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
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

April 23, 2019

The Honorable David Watters, Chair
Senate Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 103
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 137 *Establishing a commission to examine the effects of wake boats in the state of New Hampshire.*

Dear Chair Watters and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 137, which establishes a commission to study the potential impacts of wake boats in New Hampshire. The LMAC supports this bill.

The LMAC is aware that wake boarding is one of the fastest growing water sports in New Hampshire, if not the fastest growing one. As a committee with representatives from all areas of lake interests, including marine trades, real estate, municipalities, marine patrol, and conservation, the LMAC is aware of both the economic benefit triggered by the popularity of wake boats as well as the property and environmental damage, especially erosion resulting from wave action and aquatic invasive species infestations from ballast water brought in from infected lakes, that could result from unwise use and management of these boats. The committee appreciates the reasoned approach to this issue proposed by the bill sponsors, and offers any support to the study commission that might be necessary. The LMAC looks forward to reading the final report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats.

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 supports HB 137 because it would allow the effects of wake boats, including potential shoreline erosion and invasive species infestations caused by these boats, to be studied in more detail. This ensures that any regulations placed on these boats are effective, reasonable, and enforceable.

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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

cc: Rep. Suzanne Smith
Sen. Martha Fuller Clark
Rep. Linda Tanner
Rep. Dan Wolf
LMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Thomas O'Donovan, Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES