

Voting Members:

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Chair
NH Lakes Assn.

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Scientific Community

Tiffany Grade
Conservation
Community

Janet Kidder
Planning Boards

Frank Lemay
NH BIA

Jared Maraio
NH Travel Council

Lisa Morin
State Conservation
Committee

Rex Norman
Municipal Official

Dick Smith
Fishing Interests

Bruce Temple
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Vacant
Conservation
Commissions

Vacant
NH Association of
Realtors

Vacant
Marine Trades
Association

Non-Voting Members:

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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.

Shawn Jasper
NH Dept. of
Ag, Markets & Food

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Administrator

Vacant
Watershed Coordinator

Vacant
Program Assistant

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

May 11, 2021

The Honorable Thomas Walsh, Chair
House Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 203
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 131 - AN ACT adopting omnibus legislation relative to vehicles, municipal water maintenance certificates, nondriver's picture identification, and firefighter and emergency medical services decals.

Dear Chair Walsh and Members of the Committee:

RSA 483-A established the New Hampshire Lakes Management and Protection Program and the Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) to complement and reinforce existing state and federal water quality laws. Within its responsibilities of advising the NHDES Commissioner and the department, the LMAC reviews and takes positions on legislation pertaining to New Hampshire's lakes. The LMAC appreciates the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 131.

At the meeting of the LMAC on January 11, 2021, the LMAC voted to support LSR 523, which has become Part III of SB 131. NHDES has noted dramatic and rising concentrations of chloride from road salt in New Hampshire waters since nearly all of the chloride applied as road salt will eventually end up in the nearby surface waters or groundwater. In 2020, New Hampshire listed 50 chloride-impaired water bodies on the 303(d) list under the Clean Water Act. At this time, the only way to prevent chloride from reaching surface waters and groundwater is to reduce the amount applied to our roadways, parking lots and sidewalks. Since 2016, the NHDES Green SnowPro Program has successfully offered commercial applicators training and certification in salt reduction practices that prioritize public safety while mitigating salt usage. It is time to allow municipalities into the Program in order to reduce chloride pollution to New Hampshire's lakes to the maximum extent possible.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body of stakeholders, in support of lakes, representing the NH Lakes Association, conservation commissions, scientific community, conservation community, planning boards, Business and Industry Association, tourism industry, state conservation committee, NH Municipal Association, fishing interests, NH Fish & Game Commission, NH Association of Realtors, Marine Trades Association, and several state agencies. Committee members are appointed by the Governor and Council or the head of the state agency and are charged with supporting the legislative intent of the Lakes Management and Protection Program.

In conclusion, the LMAC supports SB 131, section III, for the reasons stated above. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have further questions about this letter, please feel free to contact me at (603) 867-9299 or appliedforce52@gmail.com.

Respectfully,



David Packard
Chair

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Chair, House Transportation Committee
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ec: Sen. David Watters
Sen. Chuck Morse
LMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Tom O'Donovan, Director, Water Division, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES