

Voting Members:

Michele L. Tremblay
Chair
Conservation
Community

Larry T. Spencer
Vice Chair
Conservation
Commissions

Victoria Bunker
Historic/Archeological
Interests

Christopher Hodgdon
NH Fish & Game
Commission

Frederick J. McNeill
Municipal Officer

Madeleine Mineau
Granite State
Hydropower
Association

Robert M. Roseen
Recreational Interests

Ruth Ward
Local River Management
Advisory Committees

Donald L. Ware
Public Water Suppliers

Vacant
Agricultural Community

Vacant
Business & Industry
Association

Non-Voting Members:

Peter Bowman
NH Department of
Natural and Cultural
Resources

Brian Eaton
NH Department of
Safety

Jennifer Gilbert
NH Office of
Strategic Initiatives

Mark Hemmerlein
NH Department of
Transportation

Shawn Jasper
NH Department of
Agriculture,
Markets & Food

John Magee
NH Fish & Game
Department

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Manager

Nisa Marks
Program Assistant

Vacant
Watershed Coordinator

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

January 25, 2022

The Honorable Sharon Carson, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
State House, Room 100
Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 344 *An act relative to the quorum requirements under the right to know law of meetings open to the public.*

Dear Chair Carson and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of Senate Bill 344**, which eliminates the requirement for public bodies to have a physical meeting location.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Our experience was that remote meetings during the pandemic increased attendance and participation at public meetings and
- Current technology allows bodies to conduct meetings effectively and efficiently in a remote setting.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in support of SB 344, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,



Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Sen.s Daniels, Hennessey, Cavanaugh, and Perkins Kwoka
Rep.s Long, Eaton, and Egan
RMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES
Local River Management Advisory Committee Chairs

The Honorable Sharon Carson
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
SB 344, January 25, 2022
Page 2