## N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program 29 Hazen Drive; PO Box 95; Concord, NH 03302-0095; Tel: <u>603-271-1522</u> <u>https://www.des.nh.gov/water/rivers-and-lakes/lakes-management-and-protection</u>

April 12, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Avard, Chair Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee Statehouse, Room 103 Concord, NH 03301

## RE: HB 1066 - AN ACT requiring the commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services to prepare a plan relative to cyanobacterial blooms in New Hampshire.

Dear Chair Avard 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 House Bill 1066.

The LMAC **supports HB 1066**. Cyanobacteria blooms are increasing in severity, frequency, and duration in New Hampshire. Blooms negatively affect river and lake ecosystems and the public's enjoyment of them. They expose people, pets, and wildlife to toxins, preclude recreation in affected areas, and can affect public drinking water supplies.

Lakes represent a major economic draw for the state, with Lake Winnipesaukee alone contributing \$17 billion to New Hampshire's economy. Maintaining healthy lakes must be a priority. A statewide strategy would increase the effectiveness of public and private responses to cyanobacteria blooms and help stakeholders across the state reduce the negative economic, ecological, and public health effects of blooms.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body of lake stakeholders, representing the NH Lakes Association, conservation commissions, the 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.

LMAC VOTING MEMBERS: David Packard, Chairman, NH LAKES • Shane Bradt, Scientific Community • Ryan Cardella, Marine Trades Association • Tiffany Grade, Conservation Community • Sara Holland, NH Association of Realtors • Janet Kidder, Planning Boards • Frank Lemay, NH Business & Industry Assoc. • Jared Maraio, NH Travel Council • Lisa Morin, State Conservation Committee • Dick Smith, Fishing Interests • Meredith Smith, Municipal Official • Bruce Temple, NH Fish & Game Commission • Steve Wingate, Conservation Commissions

*LMAC Non-Voting Members:* Garret Graaskamp, Vice Chairman, NH Fish & Game Dept. • Capt. Tim Dunleavy, NH Dept. of Safety • Eric Feldbaum, NH Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources • Jennifer Gilbert, NH Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs • Mark Hemmerlein, NH Dept. of Trans. • Shawn Jasper, NH Dept. of Ag, Markets & Food

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## In conclusion, the LMAC supports HB 1066 for the reasons stated above. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (603) 867-9299 or appliedforce52@gmail.com.

Respectfully,

David Packard, Chairman

ec: Representative Rung and Senator Prentiss LMAC Representatives Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Management Bureau, NHDES Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Administrator, NHDES