

N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

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

April 26, 2022

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

RE: HB 1293 - AN ACT relative to the design of sewage or waste disposal systems for a person's own domicile.

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 1293.

The LMAC **supports HB 1293**. When septic systems leak, they contaminate our rivers and lakes, thereby contributing to cyanobacteria blooms that threaten public health and aquatic life. Following a standard procedure for septic system applications ensures that systems are properly engineered to include relevant safety features. Eliminating the exemption for self-designed systems also is an administrative efficiency, as NHDES will no longer be reviewing designs completed by people with less than standardized knowledge.

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. • 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 • Vacant, NH Dept. of Safety

The Honorable Kevin Avard
Chair, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
HB 1293 April 26, 2022
Page 2

In conclusion, the LMAC supports HB 1293 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](tel:6038679299) or appliedforce52@gmail.com.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David W. Packard". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

David Packard, Chairman

ec: Rep. McConkey
LMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Management Bureau, NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Administrator, NHDES