Voting Members:

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

Rex Norman Municipal Official

Dick Smith Fishing Interests

Bruce Temple NH Fish & Game Commission

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

<u>Staff:</u> 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

May 1, 2019

The Honorable Sharon Carson, Chair Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee Legislative Office Building, Room 101 Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 244 An act repealing the moorings appeals board.

Dear Chair Carson and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 244, which eliminates the current moorings appeals board and instead assigns mooring appeals directly to the commissioner of the department of safety. The LMAC supports this bill with the following comments and concerns.

The LMAC understands that there has not been an appeal to the moorings appeals board in 12 years and that all three members of the moorings board are now deceased. Based on testimony presented at the January 16 LMAC meeting from persons believed to be knowledgeable of the bill's language and intent, it was the LMAC's understanding that HB 244 would assign mooring appeals to the Department of Safety's adjudicative appeals board. In this context the LMAC members voted for, and previously issued a letter in support of HB244.

The LMAC supports language in HB 244 to eliminate an inactive board. The LMAC supports replacing that board with an appeals process that recognizes and considers the wide range of issues that play a role in the safe, equitable, and potentially environmentally sensitive conditions associated with mooring fields. To this end, the LMAC understands that a mechanism for moorings permits, hearings, and appeals already exists at the Department of Safety which conducts its hearings according to provisions of RSA 541-A for adjudicative hearings.

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. The Honorable Sharon Carson Chair, Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee HB 244 May 1, 2019 Page 2

In conclusion, the LMAC supports language in HB 244 to eliminate an inactive board, and requests that HB 244 clearly delegate the appeals process to the Department of Safety adjudicative hearings process.

Should you have further questions about this testimony, please feel free to contact me at (603) 867-9299 or <u>appliedforce52@gmail.com</u>.

Sincerely,

David Packard Chair

ec: Rep. James Webb 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