

Voting Members:

David Packard
Chair
NH Lakes Assn.

Shane Bradt
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
NH Association of
Realtors

Vacant
Conservation
Commissions

Vacant
Marine Trades
Association

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.

Shawn Jasper
NH Dept. of
Ag, Markets & Food

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Manager

Vacant
Watershed Coordinator

Vacant
Program Assistant

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

March 29, 2021

The Honorable Kevin Avard, Chair
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
State House
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 99 - AN ACT relative to seasonal platforms on public waters of the state.

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 lakes. The LMAC appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 99.

At the meeting of the LMAC on January 11, 2021, the LMAC voted to support HB 99. This bill provides guidance, similar to the current mooring laws, to individuals who wish to place anchored seasonal platforms in public waters. In recent years very large inflatable "toys" – floats, animals, slides, etc. – have become popular. They are a source of enjoyment for families and friends. However, as a new addition to lake life, state law was insufficient to deal with the lake navigation safety and impacts on adjacent property owners. This bill is a welcomed step in that direction so that lakes can continue to be safely enjoyed by everyone including owners of the inflatables.

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 HB 99 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

The Honorable Kevin Avard
Chair, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
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ec: Rep. John MacDonald
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