

N.H. Lakes Management Advisory Committee

[N.H. Lakes Management and Protection Program](https://www.lmac.des.nh.gov/)
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<https://www.lmac.des.nh.gov/>

April 23, 2024

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

RE: HB 1103 - AN ACT relative to revising the penalties of the shoreland protection act.

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee:

The Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC) is writing to express its **support of House Bill 1103**, which will make it easier to enforce the Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (RSA 483-B, Shoreland Act).

This bill implements a recommendation of the Cyanobacteria Plan Advisory Committee to improve enforcement of the Shoreland Act as one way to reduce the nutrient pollution that can cause cyanobacteria blooms. Healthy shorelands are the last line of defense to prevent soil erosion into the lake. In addition to increasing the likelihood of cyanobacteria blooms, erosion can harm aquatic life and contribute to other water quality issues.

It is important to note that the bill does not increase existing fines or fees. Instead, this bill would improve the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES)'s ability to meet the intent of the Shoreland Act by supporting the agency's ability to enforce it. Current enforcement requirements are impractical and undermine the agency's ability to credibly enforce the law. Improving enforcement may act as a deterrent against future violations.

The LMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with 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.

In conclusion, the LMAC supports HB 1103 for the reasons stated above. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (603) 569-3114 or stevewingate@roadrunner.com.

Respectfully,



Steve Wingate, LMAC Legislation Subcommittee

cc: Representative Rung, Senator Watters
LMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES

LMAC VOTING MEMBERS: Andrea LaMoreaux, Chair NH LAKES • Ryan Cardella, Marine Trades Association • Tiffany Grade, Conservation Community • Janet Kidder, Planning Boards • Frank Lemay, NH Business & Industry Assoc. • Joanie McIntire, NH Association of Realtors • Amanda McQuaid, Scientific Community • Lisa Morin, State Conservation Committee • Susan Price, NH Fish & Game Commission • Dick Smith, Fishing Interests • Steve Wingate, Conservation Commissions • Vacant, Municipal Official • Vacant, NH Travel Council

LMAC 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 • Mark Hemmerlein, NH Dept. of Trans. • Heather Shank, NH Dept. of Business and Economic Affairs • Allen Wyman, NH Dept. of Ag, Markets & Food