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Community

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NH Fish & Game
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NH Department of
Natural and Cultural
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NH Department of
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NH Office of
Strategic Initiatives

Mark Hemmerlein
NH Department of
Transportation

Shawn Jasper
NH Department of
Agriculture,
Markets & Food

John Magee
NH Fish & Game
Department

Staff:

Tracie Sales
Program Manager

Nisa Marks
Program Assistant

Vacant
Watershed Coordinator

N.H. Rivers Management and Protection Program

N.H. Rivers Management Advisory Committee

January 26, 2022

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chair
House Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 1440 *An act relative to surface water quality standards for perfluorinated chemicals.*

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **opposition to House Bill 1440**, which mandates rulemaking establishing maximum contaminant levels for several PFAS chemicals, and establishing water quality standards to protect human health after consuming shellfish and fish.

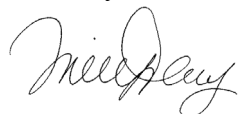
The RMAC opposes this bill because

- Work is underway by the Department of Environmental Services to set PFAS standards for surface waters, making this bill unnecessary;
- We are not aware of there being sufficient scientific information available about bioaccumulation factors to translate PFAS levels in surface waters to PFAS levels in fish and shellfish; and
- Without sufficient scientific data available, it would be inappropriate to use water quality standards to protect people eating fish and shellfish.

The RMAC is a legislatively created body charged to work with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to administer RSA 483, the Rivers Management and Protection Program. The Governor and Council appointed Committee is composed of members from business, agriculture, hydroelectric, municipal government, water supply, conservation, recreation, fish and game, and historical interests.

Should you have any questions regarding our testimony in opposition to HB 1440, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,



Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Rep.s Cushing, Grassie, Rung, Bouldin, Meuse, Tucker, and Paige
RMAC Representatives
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, NHDES
Ted Diers, Administrator, Watershed Mgmt. Bur., NHDES
Tracie Sales, Rivers and Lakes Programs Manager, NHDES
Local River Management Advisory Committee Chairs