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Community

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Conservation
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Historic/Archeological
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NH Fish & Game
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Granite State
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Robert M. Roseen
Recreational Interests

Ruth Ward
Local River Management
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NH Department of
Natural and Cultural
Resources

Brian Eaton
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

February 10, 2022

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

RE: SB 257 *An act enabling municipalities to incorporate sewage disposal systems as part of their stormwater utility.*

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee,

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of Senate Bill 257**, which allows sewage disposal systems to be part of water and/or sewer utilities.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Nonpoint source pollution, such as from mismanaged septic systems, is the top contributor of nutrient pollution to rivers;
- Allowing sewage disposal systems to be part of water and/or sewer utilities provides a funding mechanism for proper management of sewage; and
- Increased capacity for maintenance and management decreases the likelihood of problematic pollution of water bodies.

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 support of SB 257**, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,



Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

cc: Sen.s Watters, Avard, Reagan, Sherman, Perkins Kwoka, and Hennessey
Rep.s Edgar, Spang, Bernardy, and Oxaal
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