Voting Members:

Michele L. Tremblay Chair

Conservation Community

Larry T. Spencer

Vice Chair Conservation Commissions

Victoria Bunker

Historic/Archeological Interests

Christopher Hodgdon

NH Fish & Game Commission

Frederick J. McNeill Municipal Officer

Madeleine Mineau Granite State Hydropower Association

Robert M. Roseen Recreational Interests

Ruth Ward

Local River Management Advisory Committees

Donald L. Ware

Public Water Suppliers

Vacant Agricultural Community

Vacant Business & Industry

Association Non-Voting Members:

Peter Bowman

NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

Brian Eaton

NH Department of Safety

Jennifer Gilbert

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 25, 2022

The Honorable Sharon Carson, Chair Senate Judiciary Committee State House, Room 100 Concord, NH 03301

RE: SB 344 *An act relative to the quorum requirements under the right to know law of meetings open to the public.*

Dear Chair Carson and Members of the Committee.

The Rivers Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) is writing to express its **support of Senate Bill 344**, which eliminates the requirement for public bodies to have a physical meeting location.

The RMAC supports this bill because

- Our experience was that remote meetings during the pandemic increased attendance and participation at public meetings and
- Current technology allows bodies to conduct meetings effectively and efficiently in a remote setting.

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 344, please feel free to contact me at 603.796.2615 or MLT@naturesource.net.

Sincerely,

Michele L. Tremblay, Chair

ec: Sen.s Daniels, Hennessey, Cavanaugh, and Perkins Kwoka Rep.s Long, Eaton, and Egan 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 The Honorable Sharon Carson Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee SB 344, January 25, 2022 Page 2