



# New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions

SERVING NEW HAMPSHIRE'S COMMUNITIES SINCE 1970

**TO:** New Hampshire State Senate  
**FROM:** Barbara Richter, NHACC Executive Director  
**DATE:** January 5, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Vote Inexpedient to Legislate on HB707

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB707 an act requiring the department of environmental services to revise the rules for proposed new landfills. This bill is unclear, limits municipal rights and does not address permanent impacts to our natural resources. **Vote inexpedient to legislate on HB707 to ensure NH municipalities can protect their citizens health and safety.**

We ask you to support local regulations and remove the requirement “*that the state’s regulatory and policy interests take precedence over local regulation and restrictions, particularly because the department’s rules provide robust protection of human health and the environment.*”

Local regulations reflect the interests of the community and a strategy to protect health and safety. Towns should be able to use a science-based approach to decision making and this bill would limit this power. **The state should NOT be limiting a municipality’s ability to protect the health and safety of its citizens.**

The New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) is the only non-profit, organization dedicated to providing support, education, and advocacy for New Hampshire’s 217 conservation commissions. We are opposed to this bill because it limits a municipality’s right to zone.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Richter, NHACC Executive Director