
March 31, 2022

New Hampshire Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee
Mr. Kevin Avard, Chairman
c/o Senate Chamber
107 North Main Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301



Subject: Support for HB 1454 (Help Us Protect NH Bodies of Water)

Dear Chairman Avard and Committee Members,

Please accept our support for this extremely important bill - the health of our State residents and visitors, wildlife, flora and fauna are at risk unless passed and enacted.

We have recently accepted the \$50,000 settlement from the lawsuit filed by the Conservation Law Foundation and Community Action Works against Casella Waste Management and North Country Environmental Services for contamination of the Ammonoosuc River from the current landfill in Bethlehem. The funds will be used for projects designed to promote restoration, preservation, protection, and/or enhancement of water quality in the Ammonoosuc River watershed.

As you know, the State currently has no surface water PFAS standards. With current setbacks at 200', our surface water is already contaminated as proven by the recent lawsuit. Maintaining these standards increases the potential not only for continued contamination but, now, we face the potential for PFAS contamination as well.

If current standards and poorly designed landfill sites have enabled violation of the Clean Water Act, it is very likely a short matter of time before we face PFAS contamination in addition to existing violations. Increasing setbacks by enacting HB 1454 is only the first crucial step in stopping these health threats. We must do all we can to protect our New Hampshire waters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marilyn Booth".

Marilyn Booth

President - ACT Board of Trustees

cc: Jon Swan 25 Cashman Rd Dalton, NH 03598 Founder, Save Forest Lake