



May 10, 2021

Senator Kevin Avar, Chair  
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
The State House  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: HB 177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park**

Chairman Avar and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to share the Appalachian Mountain Club's strong support for HB 177, prohibiting the siting of a landfill near a state park.

AMC is the nation's oldest conservation and recreation organization, and our mission is to foster the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the outdoors. With over 100,000 members, supporters, and advocates, including more than 12,000 members here in New Hampshire, AMC has been active in supporting the creation, protection, and maintenance of state parks from Maine to Virginia. As a former Chair of the NH State Parks System Advisory Council (SPSAC), I personally am well aware of the critical role our state parks play in New Hampshire's economy, environment, and quality of life.

Prohibiting the siting of landfills in close proximity to these natural and recreational resource gems seems only common sense. The obvious incompatibility of large-scale waste disposal activity with the purposes of our state parks, to say nothing of the potential for degradation of natural and recreational resources as well as the visitor experience, underscores the need for HB 177. These lands are held by the State in the public trust, and the unsuitability of solid waste disposal facilities nearby these lands cannot be overstated.

Please vote HB 177 Ought to Pass. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Arnold, Vice President for Conservation  
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