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May 1, 2021

Dear Senators,

We are writing on behalf of the New Hampshire Chapter of Native Fish Coalition to express our support for HB177: Prohibiting the Siting of a Landfill Near a State Park, a bill which was passed by the New Hampshire House with bi-partisan support on April 9th, 2021. The bill prohibits the development of new landfills within 2 miles of any NH State Park and is crucial to the conservation of our riparian zones and the native fish and wildlife which call it home. We ask the Senate to follow suit and pass HB177 without delay.

What makes New Hampshire unique is not just its natural beauty, which is important ecologically, culturally, and economically, but also the pride we take in caring for our natural resources. As stewards of the state, we owe it to our citizens and future generations to protect our high-value lands and waters from intrusions such as landfills, especially our state parks. State parks were created for all to enjoy, now and into the future. Allowing landfills to be built in close proximity will put these areas at risk and greatly diminish the experience.

As New Hampshire's population increases, undeveloped areas will become less frequent on the landscape and clean water more scare, and the state parks and other conserved lands will become all the more essential. By protecting the groundwater and wetlands around these areas with a 2-mile buffer we can help ensure their protection.

We urge you as a Senator to support HB177 and support the future of New Hampshire's natural resources.

Respectfully,

New Hampshire Chapter, Native Fish Coalition