



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION
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February 26, 2019

The Honorable George Sykes, Chairman
and the Transportation Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 203
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 498, prohibiting OHRV operation on class V ways.

Dear Chairman Sykes and Members of the Committee,

Please accept this testimony on behalf of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation regarding in **opposition of HB 498, prohibiting OHRV operation on class V ways.**

The agency fully supports the existing rights of communities to make decisions about the use of their town roads for OHRV and Snowmobile use. Municipalities have had the ability to manage their own roads, by way of local decisions, for many decades and our agency has worked cooperatively with municipalities for almost 50 years. Town councils and Boards of Selectmen are the legal decision makers for all road related topics in their communities; this includes whether to allow the use of these roads for snowmobile or OHRV use. We support these decisions staying in local control and communities being able to make their own decisions about OHRV use of their roads.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony **in opposition of HB 498.** Please feel free to follow up with Chris Gamache, Chief of Bureau of Trails, with any questions that the committee may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip A. Bryce".

Philip A. Bryce, Director

Cc: Sarah L. Stewart, Commissioner