



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION  
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January 11, 2022

The Honorable Kevin Avard  
and the Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
NH State House, Room 103  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: SB 346 requiring the department of environmental services to conduct feasibility and impact studies for the construction of a pier on Hampton Beach**

Dear Chair Avard and Members of the Committee,

Please accept this testimony on behalf of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of Parks and Recreation ("Division") regarding SB 346, requiring the department of environmental services ("DES") to conduct feasibility and impact studies for the construction of a pier on Hampton Beach. As you look to this opportunity to continue to improve access for the enjoyment our natural resources, we ask that you consider the following.

We are uncertain who the best entity would be to oversee the study. The study committee may want to consider having the Hampton Beach Area Commission ("HBAC") as the lead rather than DES. Pursuant to RSA 216-J:1, the HBAC is established to assist the Town of Hampton and the State in the long-range planning for the Hampton Beach area by the implementation of the Hampton Beach master plan, including capital improvements and proposed land use developments.

Other agencies that may be able to provide guidance and support are the Pease Development Authority's Ports & Harbors and the NH Fish and Game Department if fishing access is one of the purposes.

We assume that a consultant would be hired to conduct the studies, but we are concerned that, depending on the depth of the study, \$20,000 would not be enough to cover the cost of determining feasibility. As a point of reference, engineering and design costs are generally 10% of the construction cost.

Understanding the impact on and degree of support from the community, local law enforcement and emergency services, and abutters to the pier would be an important part of a feasibility and impact study.

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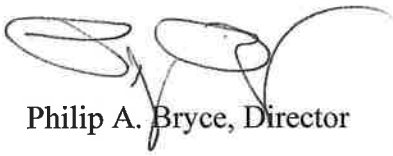
Chair Kevin Avar and the Energy & Natural Resources Committee

Page 2

Whoever would be responsible for the managing the pier would likely want to understand any operating cost including repair and maintenance and the lifespan of the pier to consider future replacement and the revenue sources to support those costs. This is particularly important given the impact that winter storms have on structures along the seacoast.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill. Please let me know if I can answer questions or provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip A. Bryce". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Philip A. Bryce, Director

Cc: Sarah L. Stewart, Commissioner, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources  
Robert R. Scott, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Services

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