

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION

BUREAU OF TRAILS

172 Pembroke Road P.O. Box 1856 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-1856 PHONE: (603) 271-3254 FAX: (603) 271-3553 E-MAIL: nhtrails@dred.state.nh.us WEB: www.nhtrails.org

January 14, 2014

The Honorable Jim Rausch, Chairman and Senate Transportation Committee NH State House, Room 101 Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 248, an act relative to establishing a committee to study policies and procedures for the development and maintenance of state-owned abandoned rail corridors.

Dear Chairman Rausch and Members of the Committee,

Please accept this testimony on behalf of the Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Parks & Recreation, Bureau of Trails in reference to Senate Bill 248.

The Department welcomes any review of policies and practices to improve recreational access to NH's citizens and visitors. The Department's Bureau of Trails has worked well with the Department of Transportation's, Bureau of Rail and Transit over the years on matters related to former rail corridor conversions. If SB 248 passes the Bureau of Trails will actively participate with the Study Committee and provide any information requested and support their work.

Thank you for considering this testimony on SB 248. Feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Chris Gamache, Bureau of Trails Chief, is available to answer questions that you may have regarding our testimony.

Sincerely,

Philip A Director

PAB/cg

