



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE of the COMMISSIONER

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February 19, 2013

The Honorable Shannon Chandley, Chair
and the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
NH State House, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 349, relative to OHRV operation of certain 4-wheel drive vehicles on trails within Jericho Mountain state park.

Dear Chair Chandley 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 support of House Bill 349.

This bill would authorize DRED to develop trails for and allow the use larger 4x4 vehicles at Jericho Mountain State Park. The development of trails for specialty vehicles such as jeeps and four wheel drive trucks was part of the Master Development Plan for Jericho Mountain State Park and is considered an area of need to address in NH.

Currently, there are no trails in NH for this type of off-road use and areas within Jericho are well suited to this type of recreation. The ability to develop specialty trails for this user group would increase attendance at the park and revenues derived from park operations. It would also create an additional recreational opportunity in support of growth of the tourism economy in the North Country. This bill would not allow the use of these larger vehicles on any other State Park property.

Thank you for considering our testimony in support of HB 349. Feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

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

Philip A. Bryce
Acting Commissioner

PAB/CG/tt1021513