



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION
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April 6, 2022

The Honorable John Graham
and the Public Works and Highways Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 201
33 North State 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 Graham 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 Hampton Beach Area Commission to conduct feasibility and impact studies for the construction and maintenance of a pier south of Boar's Head in the Town of Hampton.

We appreciate the support of the Senate and the changes they made to the bill to enable the Hampton Beach Area Commission ("HBAC") to lead the study. 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.

We assume that a consultant would be hired to conduct the studies; and, as a point of reference, engineering and design costs are generally 10% of the construction cost. With that in mind, the Senate amended the bill to appropriate \$150,000 for the studies.

The Division supports improvements across the park system to improve accessibility to the outdoors. In addition, a pier would provide an additional attraction that could increase off-season visitation. However, an essential part of a feasibility and impact study would be understanding the impact on and degree of support from the community, local law enforcement and emergency services, and abutters to the pier.

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.

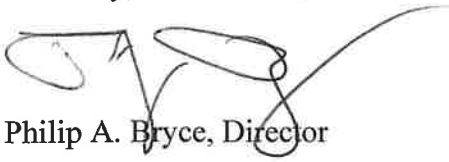
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Chair John Graham and the Public Works and Highways Committee

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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 stylized with a large, sweeping flourish that extends to the right.

Philip A. Bryce, Director

Cc: Sarah L. Stewart, Commissioner, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
Senator Nancy Stiles, Chair, Hampton Beach Area Commission

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