

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

172 Pembroke Road P.O. Box 1856 Concord, New Hampshire 03302-1856 PHONE: (603) 271-3556 FAX: (603) 271-3553 E-MAIL: nhparks@dred.state.nh.us WEB: www.nhstateparks.org

April 15, 2014

The Honorable Candace Bouchard, Chairman and House Transportation Committee Legislative Office Building, Room 203 Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 231-FN, an act relative to the definition of tractors and utility vehicles.

Dear Chairman Bouchard 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 <u>support of Senate Bill 231-</u>FN.

This bill makes corrections to statutes which govern agricultural vehicles and the ability to register an OHRV as a tractor. The provisions of this bill were addressed by the Senate Bill 67 Study Committee this past summer and the recommendations were worked on by a variety of organizations and were unanimously agreed to by the Study Committee. The confusion created by the existing statutes has caused multiple enforcement and land management issues over the past year and has created concerns from local communities in the North Country about what vehicles are legally permitted on which roads and for what purpose are certain vehicles registered for.

Your passage of this bill will correct and clarify that an agricultural registration on an OHRV is for agricultural purposes only and not recreational uses on highways.

Thank you for considering this testimony in support of SB 231-FN. Feel free to contact me should you require any additional information.

Chris Gamache, Bureau of Trails Chief, is available to the committee for any questions.

Sincerely,

Philip A. Bryce

Director

PAB/cg

