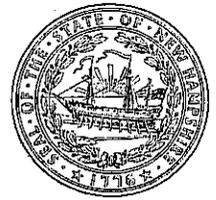




The State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

January 21, 2009

The Honorable Edward Butler, Chairman
Commerce and Consumer Affairs Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 302
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

RE: HB 1234, Requiring Disclosure of the Rights and Responsibilities of Shorefront Property Ownership

Dear Chairman Butler:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 1234. The Department of Environmental Services (DES) supports this legislation, with one minor amendment to clarify the bill. We believe that this bill will help improve compliance by persons who occupy shorefront properties by purchase or lease by making them more aware of the rights and responsibilities that come with these properties.

HB 1234 specifically requires that these rights and responsibilities be disclosed by the seller or lessor to the buyer or lessee on a disclosure form that would be developed and adopted by DES. We recommend a minor amendment to add language that clarifies that the "responsibilities of the shoreland owner" that require disclosure are those under the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act, RSA 483-B.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment on this bill. Please feel free to call me at 271-2958, or Rene Pelletier at 271-2951, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Very truly yours,


Thomas Burack
Commissioner

cc: Representative Webb
Representative Palfrey