



The State of New Hampshire  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**



**Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner**

April 6, 2010

The Honorable Judith Spang, Chairman  
Resources, Recreation and Development Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 305  
Concord, NH 03301

**RE: SB 441: An act relative to the lakes management and protection program.**

Dear Chairman Spang:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 441 as amended which was introduced at the request of the Lakes Management Advisory Committee (LMAC). The Department of Environmental Services (DES) believes that the changes and additions proposed by SB 441 as amended are reasonable and appropriate improvements to the Lakes Management and Protection Program (LMPP). We support the bill as amended by the Senate as well as the additional amendment introduced by Senator Merrill today.

SB 441 clarifies and updates certain provisions of the Lakes Management and Protection Program (RSA 483-A), adds a definition for the term "valued characteristics", adds a member representing fishing interests to the LMAC, requires that the LMAC prepare and submit a biennial report and authorizes DES to deposit funds for the LMPP into the existing Rivers Management and Protection Fund. The LLMP and the Rivers Management and Protection Program (RSA 483) are both administered by DES, serve virtually identical functions for different water body types, and are located organizationally very closely together in the DES Watershed Management Bureau. Therefore, allowing the joint management of these accounts by DES will serve to make the accounting and record keeping for these programs more efficient and aligns well with existing DES program management.

Thank you again for this opportunity to comment on this bill. Please feel free to call me at 271-2958, or Jacque Colburn at 271-2959, if you have any questions or need additional information.

Very truly yours,

Thomas S. Burack  
Commissioner

cc: Senator Merrill  
Senator Sgambati  
Senator Reynolds  
Senator Odell  
Rep. Tupper  
Rep. Millham  
Katherine Peters, Governor's Office  
LMAC Members (via electronic mail)