

**Testimony from Paul Montrone, New Hampshire Shoreline Coalition
In favor of HB 1462, establishing a Shoreland Advisory Committee
Senate Energy Environment & Economic Development Committee
4/22/10**

I am Paul Montrone from the NH Shoreline Coalition and I appreciate the opportunity to come before you today. I am here to testify in favor of adopting HB 1462, related to the CSPA, and to propose an amendment to it.

The CSPA is a well-intended law designed to protect our precious waterways, and the members of the Shoreline Coalition completely embrace its noble goals. As presently written, the law has had a combination of positive and negative effects. At this point, we are encouraged to see that the mutual goal of the NH Legislature and our various citizen groups is to make the appropriate modifications to enhance the positives and reduce the negatives of this Act.

The establishment of the Shoreland Advisory Committee proposed in HB 1462 is a step in the right direction in accomplishing this goal.

NH shoreland property owners are the individuals and families most affected by the law and those who have the most at stake in protecting our waterways. It is appropriate that they have an important role in assessing the impact of the CSPA and suggesting improvements.

We would like to respectfully request an amendment to HB 1462 related to the manner of appointing members to the Advisory Committee. This is not directly addressed as presently written. An earlier version of HB 1462 included a defined membership and a well articulated role for the Committee, but the final version deleted both of these provisions and approved the present more loosely defined committee.

Our request is to amend HB 1462 to empower the Governor to make the appointments to the Committee. We are confident that through the Governor's office, a proper balance of membership will be achieved with representation of shoreland owners on large and small lakes, rivers, and the seacoast.

We want to congratulate this Committee and the Legislature for passing certain amendments to the CSPA last year. However, there are other appropriate amendments that should be considered, especially in light of the difficult economic times. Numerous

unemployed NH citizens are waiting patiently for shoreland owners to employ them for projects at their homes which will have no negative impact on water quality; but many shoreland owners are immobilized because of the CSPA.

**Testimony from Paul Montrone, New Hampshire Shoreline Coalition
In favor of HB 1462, establishing a Shoreland Advisory Committee
Senate Energy Environment & Economic Development Committee
4/22/10**

I am confident that the NH Legislature and Executive Branch are serious about stimulating good jobs in NH, and fixing this law will certainly do so.

Hopefully, the proposed Advisory Committee will be able to focus the legislatures' attention on the provisions in the law and related Administrative Rules that are most detrimental to our economy, and yet preserve the important purpose of the CSPA.

Once again, many thanks for the opportunity to testify.

Paul Montrone