

Committee Report

REGULAR CALENDAR

March 12, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Majority of the Committee on Resources,
Recreation and Development to which was referred HB
229,**

**AN ACT defining "wake boat." Having considered the
same, report the same with the following resolution:
RESOLVED, that it is INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.**

Rep. Michael Gunski

FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MAJORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Resources, Recreation and Development
Bill Number:	HB 229
Title:	defining "wake boat."
Date:	March 12, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill looks to single out a specific style of boat used in recreational water sports for definition, so that future legislation to restrict the crafts usage can be brought forward. The majority of the committee believes this bill is unnecessary and is the wrong approach to resolve user conflicts on New Hampshire's waterways. We heard testimony referencing data from the Wake Boat Commission that recreational boating contributes over one billion dollars annually to the NH economy, and that water sports, such as wake surfing, are an increasingly popular family activity that is accessible to all age groups. With more families looking to the NH waters for their enjoyment, it is understandable that differences will arise on how the waters are used, and how one's activity can impact another. Rather than defining a style of boat, the majority believes it is the boat operator's behavior that is at issue. The way to address problems on the waterways is through education and enforcement of current laws. Local marinas, NH Marine Patrol, and the Water Sports Industry Association are working together to promote the "Wake Responsibly" campaign to educate all boaters – no matter what type of boat they are using - on best practices for staying safe, protecting our environment, and being courteous to others while participating in wake sports. The Committee believes these educational efforts should be given an opportunity before considering legislation that takes us down a path of regulations and restrictions.

Vote 13-8.

Rep. Michael Gunski
FOR THE MAJORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB 229, defining "wake boat." **MAJORITY: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE. MINORITY: OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Michael Gunski for the **Majority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. This bill looks to single out a specific style of boat used in recreational water sports for definition, so that future legislation to restrict the crafts usage can be brought forward. The majority of the committee believes this bill is unnecessary and is the wrong approach to resolve user conflicts on New Hampshire's waterways. We heard testimony referencing data from the Wake Boat Commission that recreational boating contributes over \$1 billion dollars annually to the NH economy, and that watersports, such as wake surfing, are an increasingly popular family activity that is accessible to all age groups. With more families looking to the NH waters for their enjoyment, it is understandable that differences will arise on how the waters are used, and how one's activity can impact another. Rather than defining a style of boat, the majority believes it is the boat operator's behavior that is at issue. The way to address problems on the waterways is through education and enforcement of current laws. Local marinas, NH Marine Patrol, and the Water Sports Industry Association are working together to promote the "Wake Responsibly" campaign to educate all boaters – no matter what type of boat they are using - on best practices for staying safe, protecting our environment, and being courteous to others while participating in wake sports. The Committee believes these educational efforts should be given an opportunity before considering legislation that takes us down a path of regulations and restrictions. **Vote 13-8.**

Original: House Clerk

Cc: Committee Bill File

Majority Report - HB 229 Recommendation: ITL

Representative Michael Gunski

This bill looks to single out a specific style of boat used in recreational water sports for definition, so that future legislation to restrict the crafts usage can be brought forward. The majority of the committee believes this bill is unnecessary and is the wrong approach to resolve user conflicts on New Hampshire's waterways. We heard testimony referencing data from the Wake Boat Commission that recreational boating contributes over \$1 billion dollars annually to the NH economy, and that watersports, such as wake surfing, are an increasingly popular family activity that is accessible to all age groups. With more families looking to the NH waters for their enjoyment, it is understandable that differences will arise on how the waters are used, and how one's activity can impact another. Rather than defining a style of boat, the majority believes it is the boat operator's behavior that is at issue. The way to address problems on the waterways is through education and enforcement of current laws. Local marinas, NH Marine Patrol, and the Water Sports Industry Association are working together to promote the "Wake Responsibly" campaign to educate all boaters – no matter what type of boat they are using - on best practices for staying safe, protecting our environment, and being courteous to others while participating in wake sports. The Committee believes these educational efforts should be given an opportunity before considering legislation that takes us down a path of regulations and restrictions.

REGULAR CALENDAR

March 12, 2021

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

**The Minority of the Committee on Resources,
Recreation and Development to which was referred HB
229,**

**AN ACT defining "wake boat." Having considered the
same, and being unable to agree with the Majority,
report with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT
TO PASS.**

Rep. Suzanne Gottling

FOR THE MINORITY OF THE COMMITTEE

**MINORITY
COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee:	Resources, Recreation and Development
Bill Number:	HB 229
Title:	defining "wake boat."
Date:	March 12, 2021
Consent Calendar:	REGULAR
Recommendation:	OUGHT TO PASS

STATEMENT OF INTENT

The minority feels that the definition presented in this bill reduces confusion when discussing watercraft which take on ballast/weight from 1,000 to 4,000 pounds in order to produce a wake high enough to allow surfing. Most testimony against the bill focused on an issue not encompassed by this legislation. Testimony in favor cited the need to have consistent language for all stakeholders to use in educational activities or future legislation. The final report of the wake boat commission emphasized that there must be a balance between users of NH's water bodies. Defining one of those users is an important step in establishing that balance.

Rep. Suzanne Gottling
FOR THE MINORITY

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

REGULAR CALENDAR

Resources, Recreation and Development

HB 229, defining "wake boat." **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Suzanne Gottling for the **Minority** of Resources, Recreation and Development. The minority feels that the definition presented in this bill reduces confusion when discussing watercraft which take on ballast/weight from 1000 to 4000 pounds in order to produce a wake high enough to allow surfing. Most testimony against the bill focused on an issue not encompassed by this legislation. Testimony in favor cited the need to have consistent language for all stakeholders to use in educational activities or future legislation. The final report of the wake boat commission emphasized that there must be a balance between users of NH's water bodies. Defining one of those users is an important step in establishing that balance.

Rep. Suzanne Gottling for the Minority of Resources, Recreation and Development. Recommendation: OTP

The minority feels that the definition presented in this bill reduces confusion when discussing watercraft which take on ballast/weight from 1000 to 4000 pounds in order to produce a wake high enough to allow surfing. Most testimony against the bill focused on an issue not encompassed by this legislation. Testimony in favor cited the need to have consistent language for all stakeholders to use in educational activities or future legislation. The final report of the wake boat commission emphasized that there must be a balance between users of NH's water bodies. Defining one of those users is an important step in establishing that balance.

Voting Sheets

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on HB 229

BILL TITLE: defining "wake boat."

DATE: March 3, 2021

LOB ROOM: Hybrid

MOTIONS: INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE

Moved by Rep. Gunski

Seconded by Rep. Mayville

Vote: 13-8

CONSENT CALENDAR: NO

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Juliet Harvey-Bolia, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES, RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE SESSION on

BILL TITLE: 229

DATE: 03/03/21

LOB ROOM: 306

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered) *passed*

Moved by Rep. GUNSKI Seconded by Rep. Mayville Vote: 13/8

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

- OTP
- OTP/A
- ITL
- Retain (1st year)
- Adoption of Amendment # _____
- Interim Study (2nd year)
- (if offered)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

CONSENT CALENDAR: ___ YES X NO

Minority Report? X Yes ___ No If yes, author, Rep: SMITH Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: Juliet Harvey-Bolia
Rep Juliet Harvey-Bolia, Clerk

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK



1/27/2021 9:56:53 AM
Roll Call Committee Registers
Report

2021 SESSION

Resources, Recreation and Development

Bill #: 229 Motion: ITL AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 03/03/21

<u>Members</u>	<u>YEAS</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>NV</u>
Dutzy, Sherry		✓	
Renzullo, Andrew Chairman	✓		
Gunski, Michael D. Vice Chairman	✓		
Gould, Linda R.	✓		
Horgan, James F.	✓		
Harb, Robert D.	✓		
Creighton, Jim L.	✓		
Dodge, Dustin	✓		
Harvey-Bolia, Juliet Clerk	✓		
Healey, Robert V.	✓		
Mayville, Mary L.	✓		
Post, Lisa C.M.	✓		
Smith, Suzanne J.		✓	
Spang, Judith T.		✓	
Grassie, Chuck W.		✓	
Gottling, Suzanne H.		✓	
Cohen, Bruce L.		✓	
Connors, Erika F.		✓	
Vail, Suzanne M.		✓	
Kelley, Eamon P.	✓		
Moran, Melbourne R.	✓		
TOTAL VOTE:			

Hearing Minutes

2:45 PM executive session closed.

3:00 PM the hearing for HB 229, defining "wake boat," was opened.

Rep. MacDonald, the prime sponsor of HB 229 introduced the bill and spoke in favor of it.

Rep. Smith spoke in favor of HB 229 and noted that there is confusion surrounding the definition of wake boat.

Peter MaCallum, a marina owner and President of the NH Marine Trades Association, spoke in opposition to HB 229 and states that education and enforcement of the current laws is preferable.

Tom O'Brien, lobbyist for NH Lakes, spoke in support of the bill because he believes it will lead to an improvement in the health of lakes.

John Whalley, NH Marina owner and VP of NH Marine Trades Association, and spoke in opposition.

Winston Sims, Harrisville, spoke in support of the bill.

Scott Behner of Hopkington and spoke against HB 229.

Hon. Pam Price, a member of the Commission to Study Wake Boats spoke in opposition to HB 229.

Rep. Rung spoke in favor of HB 229 stating concerns that wakeboats may contribute to additional cyanobacteria.

Rep. Silber spoke against HB 229 stating that the proposed definition may lead to restrictions and banning of wakeboats.

Rep. Bordes spoke against HB 229.

Captain Tim Dunleavy, of the State Dept. of Marine Patrol Unit and stated he was neutral.

Michelle Davis of NH Lakes spoke in favor of the bill.

Kara Chase, Belmont spoke in opposition.

Stephen McGrath supports the bill.

Michael Loucks, spoke against the bill.

Guy Nickerson of Gilford, spoke against the bill.

Diane Hanley, representing the Lake Winnepesaukee Association spoke in favor of the bill.

Stephen Raymond of Manchester spoke in opposition to the bill.

Shannon Reid of Epsom, and she spoke in opposition.

Ray Hendrickson, of Hebron spoke against the bill.

Robin Shield of Center Harbor spoke in favor of the bill.

Jodi Grimbilas, a lobbyist for the Water Sports Industry Association spoke against the bill.

Karl Leinsing spoke against HB 229.

Kimberly Ashworth spoke against HB 229.

Deborah de Peyster supports HB 229.

Brie Stephens of Moultonborough spoke against the bill.

Cody Gray of Moultonborough spoke against the bill.

Karen Mayotte of Bedford spoke against the bill.

Shane Carey spoke against the bill.

Michael Whitcher of Strafford spoke against the bill.

Hale Cole-Tucker spoke against the bill.

Dennis Stasio of Milton spoke against the bill.

Dan Fradkin of Moultonborough spoke against the bill.

100 support, 977 oppose the bill.

5:03 PM closed the hearing.

Testimony

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:33:31 PM
From: Blackshaw, Rick
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:10:34 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 Opposition
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My name is Rick Blackshaw and I live in Georges Mills, on the shore of Lake Sunapee in New London, NH (1104 Lake Ave). We are lakeside and have a dock and mooring right off of our backyard. Having lived here for 12 years, we care deeply about the protection and preservation of our great body of water –it is truly our favorite place on the planet.

We are also avid sailors, jetskiers and boaters (all of-age people in our family have our NH boating licenses) and have a tow boat that is capable of pulling a tube, water skier, and a wake boarder or wake surfer. Our family spends the whole summer deeply and respectfully enjoying Lake Sunapee. We spend time with our friends enjoying tow sports on the lake as well as cruising the lake. We also use our tow boat to take the boat from our dock to Newbury and Sunapee to dock and have lunch and ice cream with friends and family. What is great about having the tow boat is the versatility of activities we can enjoy while also distracting our two sets of twins away from their phones.

Regarding HB229 - my belief is that the majority of boat owners are generally respectful of others. As I have studied the lake and boat flow over the past 12 years, one argument that keeps being asserted against tow boats is that they increase erosion and are a disruption to the ecosystem and a danger to swimmers and other boats. Having deep knowledge about tow boats, especially wake surfing boats, I know they do not work properly in water that is less than 15 feet deep. In other words, by design, a tow boat and more specifically a wake boat needs to be far from shore to work properly –it needs to displace more water. This means that owners of tow boats and wake boats cannot effectively operate their boats near shore (it's unable to make it's wake in shallow water). Furthermore, tow boats/wake boats operate at much slower speeds (~10MPH) than a traditional tow boat used for water skiing only (~30 MPH).

My concern about HB 229 is that this bill looks to define wake boats as a response to the heightened concerns described above. The problem with this response is that defining a wake boat is not the problem that needs to be solved. Providing more clear guidance for boaters OF ALL BOAT TYPES about the speeds and distances to keep their motorboats from the shore and docks and others is what is needed.

A wake boat operating at 10MPH 150-200 feet from shore or a dock is not a problem. An outboard motor of sufficient size (150+ HP) that we see on common Pontoon Boats these days going 30+MPH 100 feet from shore is a much bigger problem –especially as they are rented at the marina all summer long, not more than 500 yards from our house.

HB 229 will adversely impact responsible boat owners of tow boats/wake boats and miss the real culprit that we are trying to understand and control - Irresponsible boat owners of ANY BOAT TYPE.

Many thanks for considering your opposition to HB 229. Please focus your attention on improving the education and enforcement of current boating laws. Lake Sunapee has been a recreation destination for boaters for over 100 years. Let's not take away this amazingly fun pastime from our kids today because we failed to understand the real problems that we need to control.

Please let us know if we can be of any help in your efforts to improve boating safety around our beautiful state.

The Blackshaw Family
Rick, Lisa, Brook & Lily (23), Carson & Wyatt (20)
1104 Lake Avenue

Georges Mills, NH
978-457-6297

Rick Blackshaw
CEO
CCM Hockey
3400, Rue Raymond-Lasnier,
Montréal, QC, Canada H4R 3L3
M: 514-664-8366
Rick.Blackshaw@CCMHOCKEY.com



Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:12:54 PM
From: Vin McMahon
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:41:57 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Importance: Normal

I want to express my opposition to HB 229. It is unfair and prevents families from enjoying themselves in a safe, healthy

Vin McMahon O.D.
Diplomate, American Board of Optometry
474 West St.
Keene N.H.
www.eveworks.com

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:51:00 PM
From: suzanne morley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:50:47 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Importance: Normal

I am a resident of New Hampshire and I oppose the House Bill 229!!!! I do not want to restrict wake surfing.
Suzanne Morley Sugar Hill NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:20 PM
From: Emily H
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:20:01 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: hearing tomorrow
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Emily Hatch and I've been living around Lake Winnepesaukee since I was an infant. Our favorite activity of our friends, family, and neighbors has always been to wake surf on our wake setter. Banning wake boats is something that I am personally and my community are enraged about! Wake surfing is a wonderful recreational activity that is safer than skiing and wakeboarding in many cases and is something all age groups can do. It's a wonderful bonding experience for our family and quite honestly is 80% of the reason we even stay on the lake. Getting rid of it will really diminish the amount of family bonding on this lake in a safe way! Not only that but you would be putting out people who have saved up an exceptional amount of money to have this experience with their family. It will hinder people financially because how will they sell their boats if they are banned everywhere!? Boats take years to wave up for because they are usually between the range or \$60,000-\$100,000 in some cases. That's a big financial loss for people.

I oppose the ban on wake boats with everything I have. I've been a member of this community for over 20 years now and I LOVE it here. Getting rid of the wake boats is a MISTAKE. Please hear those who want to keep them, this area has always been a place for fun outside and time with family, getting rid of these boats will be hindering to that time; and that time with family is what strengthens our community as a whole.

Please consider voting to KEEP the wake boats. I don't think you realize the impact of getting rid of them, I've been coming here for over 20 years and the thought of not being able to wake-surf makes me truly think about how much time I should come up here for because not having the boat would make for some boring summers. If more people felt that way and less people came (because let's be honest, boating is one of the biggest draw to visitors) it would hurt the economy and the draw for people to visit.

I could go on and on but I won't. Please please please, whoever is reading this, vote to keep our boats! They change the impact of the lake more than you would ever think!!!!

- Emily Hatch

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:37:21 PM
From: Alexander Gonzalez
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 6:12:10 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: "Please oppose HB 229"
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources and Development Committee:

Hello, my name is Alex Gonzalez and I live on Cobbetts pond in Windham, NH. I do the majority of my boating on Cobbetts, but I am also an avid Bass fisherman that travels to other NH lakes in the Wildside bass club. We do many charities for children getting them involved in boating and fishing. I am a retired Major League baseball player who played 13 years. I decided to retire and live in NH. My wife was born and raised in Windham so we decided to move here from Florida. One of the main reasons we moved here is because we love lake living and the amazing boating activities on NH lakes. We have two children, Tyler and Analise, who are avid boaters, water skiers, surfers, tubers, and fisherman. Having young children, I have seen the benefit that boating and being outdoors with my children has brought to my family. In addition to lake boating we also own a lobster boat business in Seabrook. Our boat is called Rally Cap and we contribute thousands of pounds of lobster yearly to the community.

We love boating and water sports so much that we would be absolutely devastated if HB 229 passed. I have been boating for thirty years as a tow boat, freshwater fisherman, and saltwater fishermen. My entire family has their boaters license and contribute to safe and sustainable boating all the time. We are very aware of cleaning boats and trailers to make sure that no invasive species spread from lake to lake on our bass boat. We use our ski boat to accomplish many other things such as cruising, water sports, and just hanging out on the boat. It is a way of life for us!

In my experience, boaters and fisherman who I have come into contact with are always respectful of cleaning the bottoms of the boat and trailer when launching. I am in many fishing tournaments all year, and our club along with the stewards of the lakes have an excellent relationship that has reduced the spread of invasive species dramatically. In addition, most ski boats or (wake boats) do not bounce around from lake to lake. They are usually used solely on their home lake.

I believe the conflict with canoes and kayakers is a two way street. We can start by pushing the objective for boater safety for both sides instead of singling out one type of watercraft. First, I have seen dangerous behavior from kayakers all the time such as going at night time without lights. Also, bringing a family with toddlers in the middle of the lake on Saturday while boats are trying to do water sports. Common sense goes both ways and respect should be mutual. On another note that may be brought up, the music and speakers they may speak of can be loud on any type of boat. Please do not punish a ski boat because they think the music is too loud. A pontoon can easily

accomplish the exact same thing if that boat wants loud music. I have not seen any erosion on our lake that is worthy of banning any type of boat. Also, any boat whether it is a ski boat, pontoon, jet ski, etc can cause erosion if mishandled on the shore line. Therefore, it would take a ban on all boats entirely to solve the false claims they are supporting. I live on the lake and I have absolutely no complaints about the boats, water sports, or waves.

My family and many other families have moved to NH because of the amazing boating and water sports on our lakes. It brings an enormous amount of revenue, awareness, and support for our community by allowing boats to be on the water.

I sincerely want to thank you for your time and consideration to oppose HB 229.

Best Regards,

Alex Gonzalez
Windham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:54 PM
From: Kathleen Callan
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:43:46 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: 229
Importance: Normal

Hello. I am opposed to Bill 229 as a waterski enthusiast not a wake board owner or rider. Waterskier are environmentally conscious people who participate in a family sport as a means of recreation and competition. Our goal is to have the least impact on the water and shoreline. My Massachusetts dollars are spent every year in supporting your locals economies. If waterski boats are not longer viable on your lakes and ponds I will have to take my support elsewhere.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:10:49 PM
From: altieripiv@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:50:05 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Allow wake surfing boats!
Importance: Normal

I vote for allowing wake surfing boats! Please vote to keep them! It's safer activity for families and kids!

Jenny

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:25:20 PM
From: B Medeiros
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7:52:15 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

We are concerned about the impact of wake boats on our pond and water bodies. We'd like to express our support for New Hampshire Lakes and their efforts in regards to House Bill 229 .

Thank you for your service,
Steve and Barri-Lynn Medeiros
Loudon, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:27:56 PM
From: Carter Siegel
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:01:59 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To The House resources Committee:

As a resident of Wolfeboro NH and someone who uses LakeWinnepesauki daily in the summer, I respectfully request you oppose Bill 229.

Before drastic measures are taken it would be nice to see if disagreements can be worked out by those who use the lake. perhaps more patrolling by lake Water Police and clear rules around house the boats are used. Fines could be set in place for those who disregard common sense practices and rules.

lets try to first discourage irresponsibility before punishing those of us who are considerate to their neighbors.

respectfully
Carter Siegel

Carter Siegel, M.Ed, E-RYT500 YACEP
Yoga Therapy Level I
Reiki Level I
Access Yoga: Private Instruction/Yoga Therapy
Mill Yoga: group yoga
Yoga Life Institute: teacher training
www.educationforallchildren.org
www.globalgrassroots.org
cartersvoga@gmail.com
603.661.6958

*You are the sky. Everything else is
just the weather - Pema Chodron*

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:48:23 PM
From: Nancy Morley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:40:28 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

I suppORT safe operation of Wake Boats on Mew Hampshire waters!!

David Morley
West Lebanon NH

--

Nancy Morley Sent from Gmail Mobile

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:49:53 PM
From: Nancy Morley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:15:09 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

"I support House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to support House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. I would also ask that our legislators introduce regulations regarding the proper use of a wake boat on public

--

Nancy Morley Sent from Gmail Mobile

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:27:55 PM
From: Joshua Siegel
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:06:33 PM
To: Carter Siegel
Cc: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Re: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

I did send a letter also!

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2021, at 2:03 PM, Carter Siegel <cartersyoga@gmail.com> wrote:

To The House resources Committee:

As a resident of Wolfeboro NH and someone who uses LakeWinnepesauki daily in the summer, I respectfully request you oppose Bill 229. Before drastic measures are taken it would be nice to see if disagreements can be worked out by those who use the lake. perhaps more patrolling by lake Water Police and clear rules around house the boats are used. Fines could be set in place for those who disregard common sense practices and rules.

lets try to first discourage irresponsibility before punishing those of us who are considerate to their neighbors.

respectfully
Carter Siegel

Carter Siegel, M.Ed, E-RYT500 YACEP
Yoga Therapy Level I
Reiki Level I
Access Yoga: Private Instruction/Yoga Therapy
Mill Yoga: group yoga
Yoga Life Institute: teacher training

<https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=educationforallchildren.org&u=d3d3LmVkdWNhdGlvbmZvcnFsbGNoaWxkcmluLm9yZW==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzlxNzcxMzJhMTJl&t=WTBoczF2QkRZS2JQcGJITFBkdU5DTUxBK3FORHlqTnRPYkNBeUllbUNpdz0=&h=8d06f7eef0ee4fa590be2478e460810a>
<https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=educationforallchildren.org&u=aHR0cDovL3d3dy5lZHVjYXRpb25mb3JhbGxjaGlzZHJlbi5vcmc=&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzlxNzcxMzJhMTJl&t=cmlrWUhhZmMZXcXJPeklxZ1BjcmZlZ1MzI3b0gzUEQzb05lRkRVNk90VT0=&h=8d06f7eef0ee4fa590be2478e460810a>
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<https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=globalgrassroots.org&u=aHR0cDovL3d3dy5nbG9iYWxncmFzc3Jvb3RzLm9yZW==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzlxNzcxMzJhMTJl&t=bmpnS3Y2aUFZOU85WTdQdjJpaVJCM09yTWxidVkvYUdxRE5JU2xkcEluQT0=&h=8d06f7eef0ee4fa590be2478e460810a>
cartersyoga@gmail.com<mailto:cartersyoga@gmail.com>
603.661.6958

You are the sky. Everything else is
just the weather - Pema Chodron

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:23:44 PM
From: Meredith Marina Service Dept
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:15:59 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: bill HB 229
Importance: Normal

please oppose bill HB 229 to "define wake boats". It will affect employees business and sales of wake boats to all marinas.

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Thanks !

Jon Abear

Service Manager

Meredith Marina

603 279 7921

www.meredithmarina.com



Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:37 PM
From: David Van Ham
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:24:29 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 opposition
Importance: Normal

Good morning, As a life-long boater on Newfound Lake and Lake Winnepesaukee, I would like to go on record as opposed to HB 229. Wake surfing is now a way of life on the lakes, providing all-inclusive family interest and participation. Meawhile, the boating industry continues to evolve with innovations for safety and performance. Interesting (if not odd) is the concern over wake size when the wakes of typical cruising boats often far exceed the wake size of a typical wake-surf boat. Also worth mention is the continued evolution of wake-surf boats to be "**cross-over**" status, capable to perform as a ski and wakeboard boat as well where wakes size is actually much smaller. I would like to add from personal experience; Crossover boats and their distance from shore is governed by law when towing a surfer or skier. Yet the frequency of enormous wake producing cruising boats hovering the shoreline is all too often overlooked, this is stunning to me. Perhaps the focus should begin here where the real challenges of safety and shoreline erosion is in question.

Thank you for your consideration

-
David Van Ham
Gilford NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:41:40 PM
From: Annika Armstrong
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:02:03 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 opposition
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee,

I am writing to you to oppose HB 229, banning the use of wake surfing boats on New Hampshire lakes. I would be personally affected if this bill passes. My family's wake surf boat is our way of connecting with our friends and extended family. My friends and I all convene on our boat to drive around the lake, and for a fun day on the water. I urge you to oppose HB 229 on Wednesday February 3rd.

Best,

Annika Armstrong '24

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:37:22 PM
From: Peter Smith
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 6:11:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 opposition - please vote NO
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee,

My name is Pete Smith, and I am writing to ask you to consider opposing HB 229, the "Wake Boat Definition" bill.

I have been boating and skiing in the Sunapee, NH region since 2006. We loved it so much in NH that we bought a condominium in Sunapee in 2010 after renting property for 4 years. Our family of 6 (wife, 3 boys, 1 daughter) has been enjoying Lake Sunapee every summer (May-September!) since we purchased our condo. We are not fishermen, rather, we enjoy all the typical water sports activities (e.g. tubing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, wakesurfing) that families have been enjoying on New Hampshire's beautiful inland waterways for decades.

By way of background, I graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1988, and served 5-years of active duty aboard both a 270-foot ship as a deck watch officer, and a 110-foot patrol boat as the ship's Commanding Officer. I have been boating my entire life – both for personal pleasure, and professionally as a member of the U.S. Coast Guard.

Our boating history on Lake Sunapee started with a 18-foot Boston Whaler center console – frankly, a boat more suited to coastal ocean waters than to a pure "water sports" boat on a lake. A few years ago, we decided to trade in the Whaler and get a "wakeboat", so we could really enjoy the full complement of water sports these boats are tailored to provide. We moved to a 20-foot (length restricted due to our condo association dock size) Mastercraft, with an inboard engine and the ability to add water to 3 onboard ballast tanks – which makes the wave bigger and allows for wakeboarding and wakesurfing activities. Weather-permitting, there are not too many days in the summer our family doesn't use our boat!

I understand, and can sympathize, with the concerns of lakefront property owners that is the genesis of this proposed bill – boats passing too close to their shore, at too high a speed, with too big a wave, repeatedly, with loud music. If I owned property on the lake, I would consider boaters who behaved like this a nuisance as well. But bad boating behavior is not the sole domain of wakeboat owners – bad boating behavior is exhibited by all types of boaters, whether it's a personal watercraft, a 300+ horsepower pontoon boat capable of speeds in excess of 50 mph, a wakeboat, or even a sailboat.

As a former Federal law enforcement officer charged with enforcing the laws of the sea serving in the U.S. Coast Guard, I have firsthand experience on the challenges and difficulties ensuring safety on open waters. But I feel the proper avenue to address this issue is not restricting certain types of boats – which is clearly the intent of this bill, first to define the boats, then to restrict them – but rather restricting and enforcing the specific **behaviors** that are problematic. The issue is not wakeboats per se, rather the issue is **operators** of ANY boat that (i) passes too close to shore, (ii) passes too close to other boats, (iii) blares their music too loudly early in the morning or late at night, or (iv) makes repeated passes in front of one property. Rather than define a single type of boat, I feel the state's legislators should focus on drafting the appropriate rules governing safe boating behavior (many of which already exist and do a good job governing boating on NH lakes) that would apply to **ALL** boats, not just wakeboats.

Thank you for your consideration of my observations and comments as you discuss the proposed HB 229. If you have any questions regarding my views, please do not hesitate to contact me at the contact information below.

Respectfully,

-Pete Smith

psmith@citizensenergy.com

617-852-5890 (m)

Peter F. Smith

Chief Executive Officer

Citizens Energy Corporation

Office: (617) 772-7581

88 Black Falcon Avenue, Suite 342

Boston, Massachusetts 02210

www.citizensenergy.com

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Crystal Laliberte

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:41:15 PM

To: Crystal Laliberte

Cc: Crystal Laliberte

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

I am a small business owner and recreational boater in NH. My family's first boat purchase, from a NH boat dealer, happened to be a wake boat. Our entire Summer lifestyle revolves around family, friends, being outside and boating on NH's numerous, beautiful lakes. Restricting these specific types of boats is unnecessary and poses a threat to NH businesses, NH business owners, NH families and NH athletes. These boats operate at about 9 miles an hour when surfing and are not used explicitly for surfing, they are used for cruising around as well. Proper education on these boats is what is needed because the misconceptions and distorted facts are rampantly distributed. As with any type of craft, a good operator is the most important factor. All responsible boaters have equal right to share and enjoy NH bodies of water.

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you.

Bow, NH resident

Crystal Laliberte
Executive Vice President
REI Service Corporation
11 S Main Street Suite 303
Concord NH 03301

Office 603 645 6450
Email claliberte@reiservice.com
Web www.reiservice.com



Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Joe Guyotte

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 2:01:27 PM

To: Joe Guyotte

Cc: Joe Guyotte

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

I wanted to take the time today to express my concern about this proposed legislation. It's simply unjust to single out a specific class of boats for regulation. I own and operate a boat that could be classified as a wake boat; my family has enjoyed years of enjoyment on Lake Winnepesaukee and we have always been respectful of our neighbors and surrounding craft.

It appears some people would like to ban these boats by singling them out as dangerous to the environment and shoreline erosion. There are thousands of boats on the lake that create larger wakes, specifically non-planing hulls of large cabin cruisers; no one is calling for a ban on those.

This proposed legislation is focusing on a particular class of boats because certain property owners find them annoying. We have to drive slow to surf-its not a fast sport, sometimes we play the music too loud; ultimately, we create a wave and lots of great family time, something I or any other reasonable person would consider a crime.

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you.

A. Joseph Guyotte
Gilford NH

Joseph Guyotte, CLU, ChFC, CLTC
Joseph.Guyotte@Gmail.com
603-387-7775

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM
From: Boo
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:55:07 PM
To: boo gershun
Cc: boo gershun
Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”
Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

The bill before the legislature seeks to define a category of boat based on its potential ability to behave in a certain way. This makes no sense, as there are many types of boats that can create a large wake. Singling out a specific type of boat for definition which leads to future bans and restrictions is the wrong approach.

In order to alleviate the problems that can be caused by large wakes close to the shore, attention should be focused on educating and training the boating population, not limiting the type of boat that can participate in water activities. Finding ways to enforce the existing laws will be much more effective than enacting new laws that will be even more difficult to enforce. The prosperity of NH lakes and surrounding towns depends on the freedom for all types of boaters to safely use the water.

We love boating on our New Hampshire lakes and hope to be able to share this recreational activity with our family and friends for many years to come.

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Gershun
Meredith, NH

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d=avast.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZhc3QuY29tL2FudGI2aXJ1cw==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzIxNzcxMzJhMTEw&t=cDA0MlI0YTVMsSUQxcKpHTUtkMnYvRjFkbVFCN2ZpTWU4OUNadUISM2ZTdz0=&h=52af10c14d1a42bf94381dae4d643510](https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=avast.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZhc3QuY29tL2FudGI2aXJ1cw==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzIxNzcxMzJhMTEw&t=cDA0MlI0YTVMsSUQxcKpHTUtkMnYvRjFkbVFCN2ZpTWU4OUNadUISM2ZTdz0=&h=52af10c14d1a42bf94381dae4d643510)

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: David Abbott

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:04:59 PM

To: ~House Children and Family Law Committee; ~House Commerce Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; ~House Education Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Rules Committee; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House Ways & Means Committee

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

Hello, My name is David Abbott. I am writing to ask for your support.

I am a life-long NH resident. I was raised in Rochester, and for the last 22 years, my wife and I have lived and raised our family in Londonderry. We also have a camp in Mountborrough.

My family and I enjoy all that NH has to offer. The mountains, the beaches and everything in between. We especially enjoy time boating on the lakes of NH. We have made wonderful memories. I have been a licensed boater for over 10 years, and I have passed this responsibility and enjoyment to my two sons (ages 18 and 16). We enjoy boating, and respect the responsibility that comes with this privilege.

We also enjoy the spirit of our state and our motto "Live Free or Die". We believe that singling out a specific type of boat for definition which leads to fit re bans and restrictions is the wrong approach. The issue is the boat operator – not the boat itself. Education and enforcements should be the focus of the effort. Families love boating in NH!

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards

David Abbott

London & Moultonborough

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: marlene.graham@juno.com

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 12:00:57 PM

To: marlene.graham@juno.com

Cc: marlene.graham@juno.com

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 Wake Boats

Importance: Normal

Dear NH House Members:

My family and I have lived and boated on Bow Lake in Stratford for over 20 years. We are strongly opposed to HB 229, a bill that seeks to single out a particular type of watercraft for definition so that future bans and restrictions can be introduced. We believe that **boat operators** are the issue, not the boat itself. A better approach to solving problems is through educating boat operators and enforcing current boating laws. We can enhance safety and protect the environment without limiting access to families who own specific types of boats and love to participate in watersports like everyone else on the lake, as well as those that launch their boats in our beautiful lake.

We love the lakes and work to protect and preserve them for future generations. The time spent with families and friends on the water has been priceless. In addition, it certainly has helped when dealing with the Pandemic.

We agree with the House Resources Committee that HB 229 should be killed and other ways to address user conflicts should be considered.

Thank you for your consideration and your service.

Jeff, Marlene, Autumn and Hunter Graham

Bowl Lake residents and avid lake utilizers, Stratford, NH

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Scott Fitzgerald

Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 11:53:59 AM

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

My name is Scott Fitzgerald and I am a resident of New London, NH. I am a husband and father of two children (ages 9 and 11), as well as a boat owner. We purchased a wake surf boat and it has turned out to be one of the best purchases we have made. My wife, our daughter, our son, and I have all taken up wake surfing and it has been a wonderful activity that we share together on the water which combines exercise, outdoor activity, and time together as a family all in one. I am writing to you today to reinforce the sentiment that HB 229 is unfortunate and misguided legislation as it looks to single out a specific type of boat for the sole purpose of subsequent restrictive legislation or to attempt to ban a type of boat all together. The reality is that any issues when it comes to boating on lakes in NH with boats around this size is a direct result of the operator of the boat; not the boat (or type of boat) itself. Education and enforcement of current regulations is where the focus should be as this will allow responsible operators to continue to enjoy the many benefits, while mitigating issues through a specific focus directed to improve awareness, increase a commitment to safety, and remove those operators who are unwilling to engage in a process, mindset, and environment which perpetuates and prioritizes responsible boating. .

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you for your time and for your service to our state.

Sincerely,

Scott Fitzgerald
Athletic Director
Kearsarge Regional High School
457 North Road
North Sutton, NH 03260
O - (603) 927-2305
F - (603) 927-4453

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM
From: Karen Karwocki
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:44:04 AM
To: Heather Goley
Subject: FW: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229
Response requested: No
Importance: Normal

From: Karl R. Leinsing <kleinsing@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 6:02 PM
To: Karl R. Leinsing <kleinsing@comcast.net>
Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

To the Honorable Members of the NH House:

I write to ask you to support the House Resources bipartisan Majority recommendation of "Inexpedient to Legislate" on HB 229 – a bill to define "wake boats." I am a tow boat owner and shoreland owner in Dover, NH. I live and work from home developing new medical devices that are used around the world. One of my devices made it on the cover of LIFE Magazine. Our year-round home is on the Bellamy River, which feeds into Little Bay and Great Bay and other rivers that all eventually run out to the ocean. We enjoy our family time together out on the boat, which includes going out to lunch/dinner, watching fireworks, tubing, going to the beach, water skiing, wake boarding, and surfing. Tow boats have many uses beyond just water sports. Wake surfing, in particular, is one of the few sports that the whole family, of all ages, can do closely together in the summer. This is because wake surfing is a low impact water sport with very little to no risk of getting hurt. We have made many great memories together using our tow boat that will last a life time!!!!

Observations & Solution - We understand there are some that are concerned about large wakes from tow boats. This bill is an attempt to define "wake boats" so that the boats that fall under this definition (which reaches far beyond just wake boats) can be restricted from bodies of water in New Hampshire. We don't believe this is the right solution to solve the problem. We feel education and enforcement of the current laws is the solution. Even ourselves have learned over the years that wakes can be upsetting to some land owners, so we don't make repetitive passes in front of houses and use our boat in the middle of the water far away from others. This information needs to be passed on to other boaters. It is not the boat that is causing the problem. It is the operator that is causing the problem. We even noticed this year that educational information has just recently been added to the back of the boat registration form. Education programs have just started in 2020, but with COVID-19 these programs didn't get a chance to be fully implemented. **Let's educate and NOT irradicate!**

Conclusion - Thank you for considering my position on HB 229 and please vote **YES on ITL and support the bipartisan House Resources Committee majority report.**

Karl, Amy, Alexia, and Sully (our boxer dog who also likes to go boating)

Karl Leinsing
77 Spur Rd.
Dover, NH 03820
(603) 926-8216

(603) 203-0365 cell

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Karen Karwocki

Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 8:43:47 AM

To: Heather Goley

Subject: FW: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

Response requested: No

Importance: Normal

From: Caitlin Patenaude <cpatenaude214@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 2:31 PM

Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

To the Honorable Members of the NH House of Representatives:

I write to ask you to **support the House Resources Majority recommendation of "Inexpedient to Legislate" on HB 229** – a bill to define "wake boats."

I am a 4th generation "laker" on Lake Winnepesaukee and wake boat owner. I believe the goal of HB 229 is to restrict wake boats on lakes in NH. Boater education and safety should be the priority, not restricting a certain type of boat.

Thank you,
Caitlin Patenaude Vannoy

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Benjamin McMahon

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 7:34:08 PM

To: ~House Children and Family Law Committee; ~House Commerce Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; ~House Education Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Rules Committee; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House Ways & Means Committee

Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

Importance: Normal

Dear Legislators

I live on Pawtuckaway Lake at 22 Cahill Lane in Nottingham NH with my wife and daughter. We own a Nautique wakeboard boat that we raised my child and her cousins and friends the great sport of wakeboarding and wakesurfing. I have been a NH resident my whole life and enjoy this state because I am able to spend my summer doing these activities. We feel education of all boat operators is a priority, and should be taken up by this body before beginning the exclusion of certain people from using public waters like myself (which HB229 is the beginning of a process to do so).

PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF
"INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

Ben

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM
From: Peter MacCallum
Sent: Saturday, February 27, 2021 11:59:45 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development; jwhalley@silversands.com
Subject: HB 229 "Defining Wake Boats"
Importance: Normal

Mr. Chairman and Honorable Members of the Committee –

Several weeks have passed since the public hearing on HB 229, defining “wake boats.” We appreciate the time and consideration the Committee provided to hear from the public. The NH Marine Trades Association, an association of local marinas and marine suppliers, respectfully requests the Committee find this bill Inexpedient to Legislate for the following reasons:

- Singling out a particular boat for definition will only lead to bans and restrictions, as has happened in this state previously. It was clear from the public hearing that the agenda of supporters is to ban certain types of boats from the waterways. Otherwise, why is a stand-alone definition necessary?
- The definition is broad – many boats are used for watersports and many have added ballast – whether internal, aftermarket, or even human weight. The bill is confusing and overreaching.
- The issue that draws the most complaints is wake sport activity too close to shore. The issue is not the boat itself, it is uneducated boaters.
- Many family boaters are opposed. According to the House Committee staff report, the final record of those in opposition to HB 229 was 1,252. There were only 134 in support. You may recall how many concerned parents and grandparents testified about the potential loss of valuable family time if this bill were to become law.

HB 229 is a flawed solution to a problem which can be addressed. NHMTA is committed to working with all stakeholders on how best to improve boater behavior. Local marinas have customers with pending boat purchases that are concerned about this legislation. We have seen how other committees have voted to “retain” legislation on which there is strong disagreement. Please find this bill Inexpedient to Legislate since the uncertainty which will be created by keeping this bill alive is harmful to our customers, our businesses, and all who care about recreational boating.

The NH Marine Trades Association, in partnership with the Water Sports Industry Association and many New Hampshire water sports enthusiasts, are working on enhanced educational efforts this summer through the “*Wake Responsibly*” campaign. This campaign promotes best practices while participating in wake sports to include 1) Staying 200 feet away from shore, 2) Playing music at reasonable levels, and 3) Minimizing repetitive passes along the same shoreline. As we also stated in testimony, NHMTA is supportive of efforts to help NH Marine Patrol which has been struggling with recruitment of seasonal officers.

This summer, we will invite the Committee members to a local marina to see the many different types of boating being sought out by families for recreation in New Hampshire. It is important to understand the many reasons people choose New Hampshire lakes to spend time with their families and how the wide variety of opportunities to recreate helps our statewide economy.

Again, we urge you to vote “ITL” on HB 229.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Peter MacCallum, President
MacCallum's BoatHouse*

*John Whalley, Vice President
Silver Sands Marina*

Peter MacCallum
MacCallum's Boathouse Inc.
PO Box 744
1049 Dover Road
Epsom, NH 03234
Phone: 603-736-4750 X12
Fax: 603-736-9505

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM
From: Matthew McClay
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 3:08:34 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Testimony regarding HB 229 - opposed to this bill
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to testify today.

My name is Matthew McClay

I am a New London, NH resident and waterfront owner on Lake Sunapee in the town of Sunapee and Georges Mills

I would like to speak for less than 2 minutes.

My family, including 2 young daughters, who love boating and enjoy it on Lake Sunapee.

I am opposed to House Bill 229 for all the reasons that have been stated

Additionally I own and operate a small business providing support to my clients that own lake front homes around Lake Sunapee.

Many of these waterfront owners, (I would estimate well over half) own what are described as "wake boats" or tow boats with ballast. Most of my clients do not use their boats to manipulate the wake, many appreciate that they have the ability to, but more often are using their boats to tow a tube, waterskier as well as wakeboarding and wakesurfing. These boats are great all around family boats, which allows my clients to make the most of their summers.

I think we all know definition, is the first step to regulating these boats in some fashion.

It is my feeling that the issue is not the boats but the operators. Any boat can be operated in a manor that can cause issues, speed, unsafe distance from shore or other boats, and improper use regarding towed watersports. "Wake boats" are specifically designed to create a safer experience.

I spend a significant amount of time on and around the water and see just as many issues being caused by all types of boats.

A ski boat can be over loaded with people and operated in a manor that can cause a large wake and create unsafe conditions for the passengers in the boat.

I would be in support of focusing on enforcing existing laws that deal with dangerous operation of any boat.

As I said I am around Lake Sunapee most every day dealing with shorefront owners. The only actual damage I have heard of being caused by a wake was one created by a tour boat cruising the shore of Lake Sunapee.

Matthew McClay
Lacmon Properties
603-634-6163 (office)
603-416-6019 (mobile)
Matt.Lacmon@tc.com

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM
From: Tom Daniels
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 11:49:34 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Honorable Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB 229 which defines a wake boat. I live on a small lake and the wakes from a regular motor boats can erode the shoreline. It scares me to think of the damage, not only to the shoreline but to our loons as well ,that a wake boat would create. I am not in favor of infringing on NH citizens' freedoms, but I believe we need to act prudently when the exercise of those freedoms impacts the things that makes NH so special.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Daniels
90 Mendums Landing Road
Barrington, NH 03825
603-825-6099

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:37 AM

From: Diane Hanley

Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 6:07:09 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 3:00 pm - HB229 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

Good afternoon and thank you for taking my testimony today.

Lake Winnepesaukee Association has been advocating for the Big Lake for over 40 years. LWA's primary focus is on protecting water quality. We support the wide variety of uses by motor boaters and others on Winnepesaukee, as long as those uses are not disproportionately harmful to water quality.

Due to the newness of wake boarding, there is not a large body of data on their impact. But, we have received dozens of reports from our members and others that they are witnessing seemingly more and significant erosion to the shoreline and churning of the lake bed in relation to the use of wake boats. Both of these things can have a dramatic impact on water quality—promoting the increase in phosphorous, which increases milfoil, algae and other plant growth, and reduces water clarity and fish stocks.

The increasing popularity of wake boats and the increase in residents directly observing changes to water quality is likely to continue. All the lake-using constituents, boaters, kayakers, swimmers, etc., deserve a way to define the issue so that their needs can be addressed. Lake Winnepesaukee Association urges you to support HB 229 in this session.

DH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Erica Bruehlmann
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 2:22:16 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My name is Erica Bruehlmann and I am a resident of Gilford, NH. We live on the broads and boat on Lake Winnepesaukee. I am a dermatology physician assistant, and I take care of patients in Wolfeboro, NH.

My husband and I bought our first home together the day after we got engaged in 2019. We decided that becoming our family to the Lakes Region was going to be the best opportunity to build memories and stay active, both outdoors and in our community. We both grew up boating on lakes in Massachusetts and Ontario, respectively - we are certainly the happiest when we are out on the water. We got married in our backyard in a small ceremony in September of 2020, and are hoping to have children in the upcoming year. We have found such peace and happiness living on the lake, especially during the tumultuous year of 2020.

We purchased our first boat this summer, with the intention of getting involved in wake sports. As we were previously a skier and wakeboarder, we knew this was not a long-term plan given the impact on our bodies, and felt that wake surfing was a much better and safer option for all ages. We are out surfing on the lake daily - it takes us away from technology and is our biggest stressor. We would be devastated if we could no longer continue this activity.

We are very conscious to fill and empty our balls away from the shoreline and in deeper parts of the lake. We always use a spotter, and operate at no more than 11 MPH when our balls are full. We do feel strongly that there is a safe and environmentally friendly way to operate a wake boat, especially if you care so deeply for the wellbeing of the lake as we certainly do.

We want to thank the Committee for considering our strong opposition to HB 229. Please, take time and focus on the education of boaters and enforcement of current laws - not singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. Everyone should be able to share the waterways as long as they do so responsibly.

With thanks,
Erica Bruehlmann
Gilford, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Keith Forest
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 12:39:01 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 - Wake Boats
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I do not agree that wake boats should be classified as a unique type of boat by HB 229. I do not feel that they create any different issues than other types of boats that are out on the NH lakes.

Thank you,

Keith

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Chris Hutchens
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 5:15:58 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 Written Testimony - please vote NO
Importance: Normal

Hello,

Apologies for not being able to testify today, as something critical came up for my job that I could not miss.

I'm a resident of Pleasant Lake and this is where I boat. I love the NH waterways and enjoying them is one of the main reasons my family and I have decided to make NH my home.

Along with my prior email expressing my urge to **vote NO on HB 229**, I'd like to add my reaction to today's emphasis on preventing the spread of invasive species and other organisms throughout lakes. **I couldn't agree more** that this should be very closely monitored and it's one of the most important things we can do to preserve the quality of our lakes. Particularly on beautiful Pleasant Lake.

However, If the goal is to limit the spread of these organisms, why aren't we trying to define watercraft that have the ability to store standing water? Boats with ballasts are just one of many watercraft that fit this category, so I do not follow the logic that goes from limiting invasive species to defining wake boats.

Lastly, as the bill is written ("any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments, containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed to alter or enhance the characteristics of the boat's wake, and is also known as a ballast boat."

...includes non-wake boats. This includes many ski boats that have similar controls to make the wake flatter, and cruise boats that adjust the wake so that depending on the speed, the boat moves through the water in a more efficient manner. So the intent of this definition would erroneously encompass other boats as well.

PLEASE VOTE NO ON HB 229.
Thank you for your consideration,
Chris Hutchens of Deerfield, NH (Pleasant Lake)

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM

From: BRENDA PIVIROTTTO

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:41:35 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

We have been summer residents of New Hampshire for almost 60 years. During that time there have been many changes but one thing stays true and that is the love of water sports on the lake. I oppose the bill, HB 229, which is attempting to ban the use of Wake surfing boats. This would unfairly and negatively impact the residents, boat yards, gas docks, and anyone part of the aquatic sports life on the lake.

Thank you

Brenda Pivirotto

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM

From: maureenmccanty

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:23:17 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

Dear Sirs and Ladies:

I write in support of HB 229, which will establish a working definition for wake (or ballast) boats. This will allow interested parties to communicate with one another, and will facilitate research into appropriate and safe use of these water craft on New Hampshire's waterways.

Sincerely,
Maureen McCanty
50 Tenney Hill Rd
Dunbarton NH 03046

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Steve Pruchansky
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:11:49 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB 229
Importance: Normal

Good Morning,

I have owned property on Lake Winni since 1999 and boated and enjoyed the lake since I was a child in the 50's and 60's. My family taught me to water ski, tube and wakeboard and these family times together will never be forgotten!

This email is on behalf of all families that are now boating or have boated on Lake Winni in the past that have towed a family member or friend behind their boat. Boating on Lake Winni is a joy experienced by so many and using their boat to water ski, wakeboard or tow a tube is a family experience lasting for generations and memories that parents and kids share. The sport unites families and does not create any damage to the shoreline or property to the beautiful waters and storefront of our Lake.

I understand the need for regulation, but it should have a purpose and to penalize thousands because a few boat closer to shore than current regulations allow should not be reason to punish the rest ! Enforce the current restrictions on the offenders and allow the rest of us the opportunity to se our boats on the lake as we have for decades!

Sincerely,
Steven Pruchansky
Moultonboro, NH

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Paula Inglee
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:11:29 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my concern about the use of Wake Boats on New Hampshire lakes. I understand that House Bill 229 will define what constitutes a wake boat. I believe this is an essential first step to protecting our lakes from the threat that these boats pose in the form of shoreline erosion, property damage, disturbance of the lake bottom, and the spread of aquatic invasive species.

I live on Province Lake in E. Wakefield, New Hampshire. It is a very shallow lake with the deepest part of the lake being about 15 feet. Due to its shallow nature, it already experiences cyanobacteria blooms. Our lake association is working diligently to reduce the amount of phosphorous in the lake that contributes to this problem. This summer I witnessed wake boats on our lake and saw first hand how they created waves that not only stirred up the bottom sediment, but washed over my shoreline with such force that they disturbed everything within several feet of the shore. The force of the waves dislodged sections of my removable removal dock. My row boat was slammed repeatedly against my dock despite it being securely tied. Furthermore, when these boats are in use it is impossible to enjoy sailing, paddleboarding or kayaking.

I believe that New Hampshire needs to not only define what is a Wake Boat, but also needs to regulate if, where and how such boats should operate on New Hampshire Lakes. Some of our lakes are too small or narrow to safely support their use. New Hampshire needs to protect our natural resources which are not only a source of enjoyment for our residents, but also a tourist attraction.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Paula Inglee
239 Point Road
E. Wakefield, N. H. 03830

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Holly Martin
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:29:14 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wakeboard/ballast boats HB 229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My name is Holly Martin and I live on Pleasant Lake in Deerfield NH. My family has lived on this lake since 1963. We have watched it grow and develop. I am also the coordinator for the Lake Host Program. Over the past few years bigger and higher performance boats have come to the lake. I understand the enjoyment that these boats have on our lake.

Our lake is small in comparison to other lakes in the state. It is less than 500 Acres as opposed to lakes like Winnepauski 44,586 Acres, Lake Winnesquam 4,238 Acres, Newfound 4,100 Acres, Big Squam 6,383 Acres. What I have observed is that when the Wakeboard /ballast boats are on the lake the waves on our lake are like being on the ocean on a windy day. It just isn't enjoyable. We have a 22' Glastron I/O which has even been swamped by the waves created from these boats. Not to mention the waves hitting the shoreline are clearly eroding the shoreline. A lake the size of Pleasant Lake in Deerfield NH just can't sustain this type of damage for any period of time. Not to mention the safety issue they cause for water skiers, paddle boarders, kayak and canoeing. Please support HB 229. I support this Bill.

Thank you for your time,
Holly Martin

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Geoff Van Flandern
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 6:21:08 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Anthony DiNovi
Subject: Please appose the WAKE BOAT definition bill : HB-229
Importance: Normal

Dear House Resources, Recreation and Development committee members.

I am a long time resident of Moultonborough NH on the shore of Lake Winnepesaukee - and I am writing to request you appose the WAKE BOAT definition bill: HB-229.

I am the father of 4 children. For many years, we have enjoyed the lake - swimming, sailing, fishing. As my children have started into the late teens and early twenties, we have enjoyed hours on the lake with watersports. Tubing, waterskiing and most recently the use of a tow boat for wake surfing. The wake surfing has become a favorite because of the bow speed of the boat, ease of learning the basics and the comradery of the close position to the boat. The tow boat surfing has revolutionized our activities. Waterskiing is too difficult to learn with speeds much too high, tubing in my opinion is just not as safe. The tow boat surfing is what gets my children off the couch, away from the iPhones and out doors on the lake.

I have had my New Hampshire Boaters License for many years - and now my wife, and all of my children have their own NH boating licenses. We are careful to follow the rules of the lake and boating safety - including distance to shore and other boats / docks / etc..

I have a home on the lake and 300' of frontage in an area where tow boats and wake surfing are common. I have seen NO evidence of erosion or change in the lake - or the condition of my boat tied at the dock. Quite the opposite - because the tow boats travel so slowly while surfing - they are operated in a much SAFER manner. My fear as a swimmer, sailer on the lake is the boats going at high speed - or even the extremely large cabin cruisers traveling at speed - both of which I cannot see in the water and despite a tremendous change in the lake environment I won't spend time criticizing other boat types - but the speed and size of some of the boats on the lake is frightening. The tow boat is not only a slow surfing for my family - but provide a safe, secure platform for cruising at bow speeds or even wake boarding, skiing and tubing. I thank the committee for understanding my opposition to this bill instead of singling out one type of boat or another - I believe the time is better spent on boater education and training - as well as patrolling the lake for those who do not follow the rules of proper boating safety. Thank you for your attention. This is my request for you to appose the bill: HB-229

Geoffrey J Van Flandern
31 Marcus Road, Moultonborough, NH 02354
603-666-4738

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Alex Hennig
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 1:09:29 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee,

I am a physician living in Gilford with my wife and two children. We have been boating since moving to the area 12 years ago. We started in a boat club, experimenting with various types of boats, and learning the lake while developing our boating skills. When we finally purchased a boat, we decided on a boat that allows us to cruise and travel throughout the lake, anchor, lounge, tube, ski, wakeboard, and surf. Whether with family or friends, we have spent countless hours boating, and the versatility of our wake/tow boat has allowed us to enjoy that time in so many different ways.

All boats have the potential to cause or create problems on the water if used in an inappropriate manner. This is usually the result of a lack of understanding of boating rules and poor captaining. The type of boat used is rarely the problem. Classifying and/or regulating a single type of boat will not change these events from occurring. It will only limit citizens' ability to benefit from the use of these incredibly versatile vessels. The focus should be on continuing to promote boater's education involving all types of boats and the enforcement of current boating laws, not on singling out or restricting certain types of watercraft.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinion of opposition to bill HB 229.

Alex Hennig
Gilford, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Chris Brown
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:58:12 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Chris Brown
Subject: Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

*To the Honorable Members of the House Resources,
Recreation and Development Committee:*

I am a lifetime Concord resident, so fortunate to lake access from family properties on both Bow Lake in Strafford and Pleasant Lake in Deerfield. I am the owner of a 3rd generation New Hampshire business and take great pride engaging in our community to making our state a better place. I feel that my community involvement and connection to such a beautiful New Hampshire resource gives me a unique perspective.

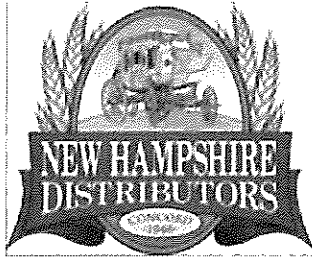
Spending the summer season on the lake I have had the opportunity to enjoy the lake with friends and family. The access to the lake to recreate on a boat enhances this experience. In 2019 I purchased a "wake boat", replacing an older powerboat. This boat expanded the recreation activities that we could do on the lake. We found ourselves spending much more time and enjoyment on the lake.

The wake boat driver must be educated and aware that the wake created is different than a normal speedboat. If the driver of the wake boat observes the correct setbacks, lake markers, other boats and recreation traffic the boat should not be singled out as the destructive influence on the lake.

I hope the committee will discuss the potential expanded education and training for the owner and driver of a wake boat, before the boat may be restricted.

Thank you for your time on this matter.
Chris Brown

Christopher A. Brown
President & CEO



New Hampshire Distributors, LLC
65 Regional Drive
Concord NH, 03301
cbrown@nhdist.com
603-410-1824
603-235-3101 cell

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: Brian Green
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:58:45 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB 229
Importance: Normal

I'm writing to oppose HB 229 as it is a clear part of a plan to limit the rights of New Hampshire families right to enjoy wake sports.

NH lakes has been spearheading an activity to demonize wakeboats. The reality is, almost any boat can produce a large wake depending on how it is driven. Responsible families following the already established rules should have the ability to participate in family friendly sports. There is no reason to single out wake boats for discriminatory treatment where there are already ample laws in place to establish safe operation of all boats on our lakes.

This bill will be the beginning of an effort to single out one group of people who are simply trying to enjoy what is ultimately a healthy, family friendly activity. Outdoor recreation is a lynchpin of the New Hampshire experience. No activity is without impact, and we have always successfully managed that by establishing rules for all, not just some.

Please oppose this bill.

Thank you,
Brian Green
Pelham NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM
From: sbradley@nesproperties.com
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 4:34:58 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 - please vote No
Importance: Normal

To the Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:
My wife and I own a house in Moultonborough and have been spending our summers on Lake Winnepesaukee for over forty years. We love it here and now are now full-time residents. We are passionate about the Lakes Region and we make an effort to support businesses and traditions in the area. Our life here revolves around spending time on the lake and enjoying boating activities on Lake Winnepesaukee.

We have owned a waterski/wakeboard boat for over 35 years. Our entire family enjoys waterskiing, wakeboarding and tubing. It is what they look forward to each summer. All three of our children are now in their 30s and still enjoy their watersports. We also now have grandchildren that enjoy being towed behind the boat, whether on a tube, waterskies, a wakeboard or surfing. Last year, we purchased a new boat that added wake-surfing to our tow options and it was a "huge hit". Wake-surfing is more intimate, since the surfer is closer to the boat and you can talk to them. Also, by running the boat at a much slower speed, it is quieter and safer.

As long-time boat owners, we have always been committed to safe boating and knowing and following all of the boating regulations. We have instilled in our children the same importance of safe boating practices and to being respectful and courteous to other boaters on the lake and to keeping a far distance from the shoreline. We appreciate the Commission's work regarding safe boating regulations, but the efforts to restrict wake boats are unfounded and not necessary. How a boat is operated is more important to safety and environmental impact than the style of the boat. Regulations should be consistent for all types of boats and not singling out any one type of boat. To improve boating safety and environmental issues, the focus should be on providing proper education on boating safety regulations, increased minimum distances from the shorelines for all watersport's activities (for all motor boats) and continual education about protecting our lake from invasive species. My family and I are opposed to HB 229.

Thank you for your consideration of our opposition to HB 229.

Stephen Bradley
Moultonborough, NH

Stephen C. Bradley
Mobile: 508-481-9900

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:38 AM

From: Zane Broome

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 4:42:56 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development; scottbehner@gmail.com; Jodi Grimbilas

Subject: Please oppose HB 229

Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

My name is Zane Broome and I have lived in Rindge, NH on Lake Monomonac for the past 17 years and have been boating on it for over 20 years. I have been and continue to be a watersport advocate. Over the years I have volunteered as a lake host to help prevent the spread of milfoid, an invasive aquatic species that chokes out lakes and ponds. I have also helped with lake water testing, been president of the Monomonac Lake Property Owners Association and helped with ecology programs that teach kids about watershed and the health of lakes and with the state's limnologists from Concord, NH. I have also competed in waterskiing, wakeboarding, surfing and other water sports competitively. I only share this information so you realize I have adequate knowledge and wisdom on this subject.

Boating not only is recreation for me, but quality time spent with family and friends. My children have gained invaluable confidence, self-esteem and responsibility while doing watersports. It's also a healthy, active and positive activity for kids that keeps them from forming other bad habits and being involved in "bad" activities.

I oppose this bill because defining a boat to whether it's defined as a "wake boat" is nonsense. ALL BOATS CREATE A WAKE! It's the driver of the boat that determines the size and shape a wave can make. I can take a small boat with an outboard motor and create a large wave; I can take a pontoon boat and create a large wave and I can take a runabout boat and create a large wave. My point is that it's not the size, type or definition of the boat that matters, but the education of the person driving the boat.

Most of the problems that I have personally dealt with while president of MLPOA were from people who didn't know any better and just didn't know what they didn't know. Having a boater's license, knowing the laws and education solved most problems. Defining a "wake boat" is like treating a symptom and not addressing the underlying cause of the problem, which is EDUCATION! Any irresponsible boater can contribute to problems. I want to recognize it's not the boat that's the issue but the behavior of the operator.

Since I personally live on a lake, I know some people blame large waves from causing erosion and dock damage. In the years I have lived on the water, I can personally attest that it's very minimal and as I stated earlier, it's usually from an individual boater operating unlawfully close to shore and not from the masses of law-abiding boaters who follow the rules. I have also not seen any evidence of milfoil spread since the lake host program began, which I continue to support as a worthy cause of education.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email. Due to work constraints, I could not testify in person. I sincerely hope you consider opposing HB 229. I ask that you focus on the education of boaters and enforcement of current laws - not singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. Everyone should be able to share the waterways as long as they do so responsibly.

Respectfully,

Zane Broome
Rindge, NH

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Keith Mayotte
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 4:13:09 PM
To: Andrew Renzullo; ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Opposed HB-229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am a small business owner in Hudson, NH and my family has owned waterfront property in Moultonborough on Lake Winnepesaukee for more than 40 years.

My parents raised myself and my 3 siblings on NH waters, participating in watersports all summer long. We have been waterskiing, barefooting, wakeboarding, wakesurfing on the same bay on Lake Winnepesaukee since I was in diapers. We have had zero issues with neighbor complaints, swimmer safety, erosion, spread of invasive species due to the ballast systems in all those years. Zero. The worst beachfront erosion I have ever seen in our time on the lake happened last summer in 3 hours from a violent rain storm. 100 years of boat wakes couldn't do what that storm did in 3 hours. The NH LAKES org should be working to prevent extreme weather.

I am now raising my three young children on the same bay on Lake Winnepesaukee participating in the same watersports. Time in the boat brings together 3 generations of our family who can all participate in these sports together. Ages 2 to 80 out on the water behind the boat together in a healthy and active lifestyle that other water front owners love to see.

A definition of wake vessels is the first step to more laws, more regulation and banning a healthy and active way of life that is doing zero harm.

I am a business owner, NH property owner and a wakeboat owner and I oppose HB-229 and hope you will too. Proper education and existing law enforcement will alleviate any legitimate concerns with all types of boats and operators on NH waterways.

Please remember our state motto, Live free or die. Thank you for your time!

Keith Mayotte
Red Brick Clothing Co.
Done Right. On time. Every time.
17 Dracut Road, Hudson NH 03051
P: [603-882-4100](tel:603-882-4100)
E: Keith@RedBrickClothing.com
W: RedBrickClothing.com

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Michael Loucks
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 4:02:39 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Nancy Loucks; Jodi Grimbilas
Subject: Proposed Wake Surfing Boat Law, HB 229: Please oppose that bill
Importance: Normal

Greetings:

I am a New Hampshire resident in Sunapee New Hampshire, on Lake Sunapee. I have owned a primary or secondary residence on the lake since 1985, and in those nearly 40 years I have participated in many activities on the lake, including swimming, sailing, kayaking, water skiing, wake boarding, jet skiing and wake surfing.

I write in opposition to HB 229.

My wife and I live now on Lake Avenue in Sunapee, on the west side of the lake. We have owned and used all manner of water craft, from kayaks to paddle boards to jet skis, sail boats and ski boats. Presently we own a wake surfing boat and we are opposed to any regulations that may preclude the use of wake surfing boats on Lake Sunapee or on other lakes in the state.

While the wake surfing boats do put up a bigger wake when their ballast tanks are full, there is no discernible difference between the wakesurfing wakes and some of the wakes put out by other boats on the lake. Any boat driven at 8-10 miles an hour with a full passenger load will put out a large wake.

Certainly, there is no evidence that we have seen that the wake surfing boats cause any lake erosion. The biggest waves we see on the lake come from nature, especially during Northeasters, and even those do not cause any noticeable erosion to the granite stones along our shore. I would be interested to see the bona fides of any scientific studies that purport to claim otherwise.

I would appreciate the opportunity to testify against the bill during the hearing in early February.

Thanks,

Mike Loucks

Michael K. Loucks

Cell: 617-686-9635
Sent from my iPad

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Ed Missell
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 1:59:40 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My Name is Edward J Missell, My Family and I Live in Raymond, NH But we Enjoy Spending time at Newfound lake where my Parents own a house on Dix ST in Bridgewater, NH.

My Family has been Camping and now living on Newfound lake for 4 generations and have always enjoyed all of the activities the lake can offer but boating is certainly at the top of the list.

We currently own a Tow style boat, and do occasionally use it for watersports such as skiing and wakeboarding, but mostly as a means to access and enjoy the lake for things like swimming, snorkeling, fishing and to just spend the day on the water with the family.

We have not seen or heard of any complaints of negative impacts that these types of watersports or boats are supposedly causing from the numerous people that we know that also use the lake whether from shore or by boat and we ourselves do not see issue with it. We have worked hard to be able to afford the boat we own and It would be very unfortunate if we were not able to use it to spend time with our family on the lake.

We would like to thank the Committee for considering your opposition to HB 229. We would ask that you instead focus on the education of boaters and enforcement of current laws and not singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. Please do not let the few ruin it for the many as this seems to be the case. Everyone should be able to share the waterways as long as they do so responsibly. Please also consider that if these kinds of boats were banned, a lot of people would be forced to sell their boats in favor of another style, which would significantly drive down the cost of wake style boats and drive up the cost of others which would result in a large amount of money lost.

Thank you for your time,

Edward J. Missell, Raymond, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Diana Frucci
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 1:18:21 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229 Wake Boat Definition bill
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

Hello! My family has spent our summers at Lake Winnepesaukee for the last 25 years. My husband and I have owned a "tow boat" together since we were in college. We are members of the Abenaki Water Ski Club in Wolfeboro, NH, my son works for Lake Host and I volunteer for water testing through UNH and the Lake Winnepesaukee Association. We are invested in the lake and area.

My husband Jay and I actually met on a Water Ski Team in college and have owned a tow boat before we even owned 2 cars. Lucky for us our 3 boys took to the sport and we have enjoyed countless hours of family time practicing and competing in our sport. Boating has always been a huge part of our lives. We ski twice a day weather permitting and we all have our NH boating licenses. My husband, myself and middle son are all official AWSA (American Water Ski Association) competition boat drivers that requires testing and many practice hours with mentors to achieve. This rating allows us to drive for slalom, jump and trick events for official USA waterski events. We have hosted numerous tournaments and taught so many kids to ski. A lifetime sport and family activity that has brought so much joy to my family. My middle son actually just received a D1 scholarship to attend college at FSC in Florida next year for Water Skiing!

Although we love our water ski sport we really love just being on the water, watching the sun set and the pure joy of pulling kid behind the boat for the first time.

Milfoil has been a continuing nuisance for many years now. We volunteer our time to water testing and preventing the spread of this invasive species. We have witnessed many private ski lakes overtaken with this weed and turned into a swamp if the lake is not being used or left untreated. Our ski community is aware of this problem and is proactive in inhibiting the spread. We want our water ways safe and clean. My experience with environmental abuse and erosion has been related to the boat operator, not the boat. We are all trained boat drivers, safety for the skier and the lake itself are our primary focuses.

Thank you for reading this letter and considering opposing HB229. With the proper education of boat drivers through such programs as the NH boater licenser and AWSA, USA Waterski we can operate our power boats in a safe fashion for the participants, environment and animals.

Best,

Diana and Jay Frucci
Wolfeboro, NH
Hanover, MA

Diana L. Frucci ASID
Owner/Interior Designer
diana@furnitureconsignment.com

FURNITURE CONSIGNMENT *Gallery*

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Ron Wright
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:06:37 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: "Please Oppose the Wake Boat Definition bill"
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My name is Ron Wright and I live in Keene, NH. My family and I have a lake camp in Harrisville, NH on Skatutakee Lake. We own a "tow boat" and enjoy activities such as water skiing, tubing, wakeboarding and wakesurfing. We are also avid swimmers and paddle boarders. Our lake community is a wonderful atmosphere and everyone pitches in to support a safe, clean environment with either financial donations and/or volunteering at the boat launch. We just recently completed a self funded \$50,000 dam upgrade to support ongoing abilities to properly control the water level of the lake and downstream bodies of water.

Myself and neighbors greatly enjoy the use of our lake for numerous activities. Kayaking, paddle boarding, swimming (near shore and long distance), bass/pike fishing, and numerous kinds of tow boat activities. We enjoy this time with close friends and family and also look forward to repeat vacationers from all over the country. The natural, screen free time is priceless (for my kids and my wife and I). Both my wife and I grew up as kids on the water in many ways. My wife grew up on Sand Pond in Marlow/Lempster and it is where she learned how to water ski, kneeboard and fish. I grew up on both fresh water (Spofford Lake and Connecticut River) and the ocean (Cape Cod). Boating is part of who we are. We have had our boaters licenses for many years. I actually held a 25 ton near coastal captain's license for 5 years. Safety is number one for us (and any boating family I know) and we enjoy teaching our children and friends about this when we are out enjoying the water.

I understand that there are concerns about shore erosion, invasive species, and danger to swimmers/paddlers/wildlife. What I can speak to from my observations (from my small lake in Harrisville to big lakes such as Winnepesaukee) is training and rules are critical. Many look to share and enjoy the water together, regardless of what they like to do. From time to time I have seen situations where boating operators are not following the appropriate rules. It's unfortunate, but I think we can all do better with more education. When I observe a situation (boater going on the wrong side of a marker, towing someone too close to shore, etc.) I typically approach them to help them know about the rules. Some of my neighbors do this as well. People are very thankful and appreciate the feedback and they are typically very new to boating.

Our lake in Harrisville is small, about 250 acres, and we have no issues supporting all activities and are proud of having zero invasive species. The lake is often visited by people in surrounding areas to kayak and fish due to how clean and safe it is. We have a family of loons and at least one bald eagle nest. Watching them hunt for dinner is amazing! All of this happens with the use of tow boats on a daily basis.

I ask that the Committee considers my opposition to HB 229. Please focus on the education of boaters and enforcement of current laws versus singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. Everyone should be able to share the waterways as long as they do so responsibly. We prove this day in and day out at our lake and I am positive other communities can do the same.

Thank you,

Ron Wright

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: DiNovi, Anthony
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:03:49 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my concern about HB 229, pending legislation which seeks to define — with the possibility of restricting or banning — the use of surf or wake boats on NH waterways.

I have been a property owner and taxpayer on Lake Winnepesaukee in Moultonborough for 20 years. We love the lakes region, and believe wholeheartedly in protecting the lakes. However, restricting the use of surf or wake boats is not the answer.

I have owned a wake boat for 5 years. Surfing behind this boat is a tremendous source of healthy enjoyment for my family and guests, especially during this pandemic. Most importantly, because of the low boat speed during the activity, wake surfing has dramatically improved the safety of our water sports, and we have experienced a significant decline in injuries. Wake surfing is also a more accessible activity (relative to water skiing and wakeboarding) for people over 50 years of age, like my wife and me, because of the low speed/low impact nature of the sport.

We would be supportive of further education around noise/music levels, and proximity to shore lines and other boats. We believe there are many well educated and respectful boaters in our area and we would be disappointed to see them impacted negatively by the actions of a few boat operators. New Hampshire has a reputation for being welcoming to family boating and fun. We love the state's motto "Live Free or Die." We are concerned that this legislation, while well-intended, would negatively impact New Hampshire's reputation and thus could impact property values as well.

I respectfully ask you to oppose this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tony & Deanna DiNovi
Moultonborough, NH

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Adrienne Hanson
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:14:35 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose the Wake Boat Definition bill
Importance: Normal

Hi there, my name is Adrienne Hanson from Alton Bay, NH. I'm a nationally ranked waterskier and member of the Abenaki Water Ski Club. While I don't personally own a tow boat, I spend most summer days training behind one for regional and sometimes national level competitions, and building lifelong relationships with fellow water skiers. The community I am apart of because of tow sports has become a second family to me.

Lake Winnepesaukee is my home and I want nothing more than to preserve its natural beauty. In fact, I've worked with NH Lakes as a lake host, and have been part of lake cleanup efforts. However the concern about tow boats / wake boats wakes causing erosion etc. is unfounded when compared to the natural effects of weather, and every single other boat out there. I frequently witness the wind creating far larger and more persistent waves than any wake boat could. Even more so, I remember as a child learning how to waterski behind my parent's Four Winns, being scared of the wakes from the "house boats" or "yachts" such as Carvers. In fact, any boat going the right speed is more than capable of generating massive wakes.

Safety is another concern. If defining wake boats leads to restricting wake boats, many boaters who have come to love sports such as wake surfing will merely resort to surfing behind outboards which would come with a whole new level of danger.

There's also the economic impact that would come from singling out wake boats. These boats, like many others, are incredibly expensive. Their presence on the lake brings the presence of money that boosts our very seasonal local economy.

Thank you for considering my opposition to HB 229. I urge you to understand singling out wake boats is not the way to help our ecosystem and our economy. There's much more to be gained from boater education and enforcement of current laws (the lakes have been crazy these past years and 99% of the time it's not the tow boats I see breaking laws). If we focus on responsible boating, everyone will be able to share the waterways we all love so much.

Thank you,
Adrienne Hanson, Alton Bay NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Ted Karwoski
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 10:12:30 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 opposition thoughts and comments
Importance: Normal

My family has lived on Lake Winnepesaukee since 1993. Our children and now grandchildren have grown up on the lake learning to ski, swim and enjoy all the wonderful nature and beauty it has to offer. And yes, we have seen the challenges that rafting boats in certain areas presented. We have seen first hand how a disruptive neighbor allowing their children to "terrorize" the shore with underage jet ski joy riding can cause chaos and danger to everyone around them. These and many issues can be more effectively addressed by enforcement of current safe boating laws and applying common sense. Education of everyone is far more effective to achieve success in protecting our lake and the ecosystem that supports its life and ours.

Like anything, the challenges that a few boaters who don't follow the rules, or worse, think the rules don't apply to them create can be more effectively dealt with by educating them. Helping them understand that the damage to the shore line, protecting the fragile ecosystem of lake bottom stability, nesting birds, etc. brings them into the family of care that the rest of us are so proud of in caring for the lake. Alienating them and their surfing and wakeboarding by singling them out because of a few disregard good boating practices by passing specific laws will not be a good practice or long term solution. What next new thing will create the next challenge?

My strong urging for everyone is to use the financial and personnel resources to educate them and remind them of how they come to have a beautiful lake to sport on in the first place. In the end we all win by this effort and gain advocates that self police and respect their sport making it safer for all. I strongly oppose HB 229 and its efforts to single out a specific watercraft on the lake.

For the record, I do not own a wakeboat, nor does anyone in our family wake surf. We have found when we are out and see behaviour that is inappropriate, explaining to the offending group why it's not good for anyone and the consequences of the bad behavior goes a long way to promoting good neighbor and good boating practices. Education is a better path to travel down. Thanks for listening.

--

Bear Karwoski

The truth is a beautiful and terrible thing and should therefore be treated with caution. JK Rowling

Time sneaks up on you like a windshield on a bug. John Lithgow

I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes the day hard to plan. EB White

Can't I do both? BK

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: RICK TROTTIER
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 7:45:52 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My Name is Richard Trottier, I am the Operations Director for Peters Of Nashua. I reside in Litchfield NH and own two properties on Lake Winnisquam where we enjoy boating, watersports, wake sports and time with family and friends.

We have been on Lake Winnisquam for 4years and the time we spend with family and friends on the water enjoying wake surfing cannot be replaced. It has brought our family closer together as it is a sport that all can do and the low impact of the sport makes it safe for all to enjoy even at 60 yrs old there is nothing I enjoy more than getting behind the boat to surf or to watch my 4 kids , grandchildren and friends try, succeed and fall in love with surfing. These are memories and lessons that can never be replaced.

As far as the impact on shorelines from wake boats I do not feel that wake boats that use common sense and stay 200-300 feet off the shoreline have any effect on erosion or will damage any shore lines. There have been numerous studies that indicate waves lose more than 60 % of their power after a very short distance which means by the time it reaches a shoreline there is no impact on the shoreline.

In closing I am asking you to oppose HB 229 and Instead of focusing on banning a watercraft that brings in countless revenue to our state thru boat sales, tourism, boater registration, fuel sales, lodging and helping the local economies lets focus on boater education and the enforcement of current laws and not single out a certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. We all should be able to responsibly enjoy our state's waterways.

Respectfully,

Richard Trottier
Litchfield NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:39 AM
From: Mike Staiti
Sent: Thursday, January 28, 2021 6:12:08 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Mike Staiti; Sandy Staiti
Subject: HB 229 HEARING ON DEFINING WAKE BOATS
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

My family has owned two properties on Lake Massasecum in Bradford since 1999 and we are writing to express our opposition to the potential wake boat restrictions that the State of NH is considering with House Bill 229. We've owned a ski boat since we first purchased our two properties and in 2020 we upgraded to a combination wake/ski boat to accommodate the different interests in my family. It's the best move we've made in years and has added immensely to our enjoyment of our vacation home. We only use the property in the summer and being able to water ski, wake board and enjoy our boat is one of the primary reasons we own in NH and not on the Cape or Islands. We've paid substantial taxes for 22 years and we receive no services except access to the town's trash and recycling center. I have no complaints about the taxes we pay given our enjoyment of this gem of a lake but if we can't boat and take full advantage of lake life, there's no doubt that we will be selling and buying in another state. I've been a real estate developer since 1995 and I fully understand what makes properties valuable. In my experience, a restriction on this class of boats/uses will gravely affect real estate values and in a very short period of time you will see NH's lake properties decline in value along with corresponding property taxes.

Further, I understand that one of the primary concerns is in regards to erosion. Our lake is a relatively small lake prone to wildly varying depths during the season but despite the challenges of rapid rises and drops in the lakes water level, erosion has not been a problem for Lake Massasecum. The lake is primarily used by residents who live on the lake with very few day boaters given our small size. The residents are experienced boaters, respectful of each other and of the lakes ecosystem. Also, the lake's depths are such that it's difficult, if not impossible, to ski, cruise or wakeboard anywhere near the shoreline, further reducing the risk of erosion. While our lake may be somewhat unique in this respect, erosion is simply not an issue.

We hope the legislator will not approve this proposed bill and continue to allow the thousands of lake owners to enjoy living on New Hampshire's beautiful lakes with all the rights that come with that.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michael and Sandy Staiti
68 & 72 Massasecum Lake Road, Bradford, NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: Tonya Knightly
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2021 4:37:50 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 please vote no
Importance: Normal

I would first like to say, "Thank you for your service to our great state. It is a sacrifice many are not willing to make." I am writing today to urge you to vote against HB 229. HB 229 seeks to create a new definition of wake boat for the sole purpose of banning and restricting them in the future. In 2019 a commission was formed to study wake boats and give their recommendation. The commission unanimously recommended HB 115 to improve wake sport safety. The commission is against a ban.

My name is Tonya Knightly. I am a constituent in your district. I have lived in New Hampshire since 1987 when I came to study at UNH. I love this state and all it has to offer. Not only do I enjoy most water activities I also teach adaptive sports, including waterskiing, to people with disabilities. For a person who struggles with every day activities, being able to recreate and socialize with others is a powerful thing.

My husband Scott and I live on Pleasant Lake in Northwood. We have been on the lake since 1999. Our two sons Cameron and Christian have grown up on Pleasant lake. It is where they learned to swim, kayak, paddle board, and waterski and wake surf. Because we call Pleasant Lake home and plan to be here for a long time, we care deeply about the health of our lake.

Family time on our wake boat is precious to us. It's not always easy to get teenagers away from their computers and devices but wake surfing has brought us together. Since purchasing the wake boat the boys and their friends spend a lot more summer afternoons with us on the water. Because wake surfing is very social and fairly easy to learn it is the perfect summer lake sport to bring people of all ages and abilities together. The set up and functionality of the wake boat makes it great for all tow sports as well as just cruising around and stopping in the middle of the lake for a swim. Even our dog enjoys his time on the boat. Banning wake boats would severely impact the rights of families like mine who wish to enjoy the lake.

Because I spend every day on the lake, I am very aware of the concerns around safety and the health of our lakes. I have seen my fair share of irresponsible operators in all types of water craft, from fishing boats to paddle boards. For this reason, I believe our laws need to center on law enforcement and education of the operators not the banning of specific watercraft.

A ban on wakeboats would also hurt our economy, especially those businesses related to water sports. Recreational boating contributes over \$1.2 billion annually to our economy.

As a community we need to focus on education on boater safety and keeping our waters clean so that everyone is able to enjoy the lakes from fisherman, to kayakers to wake surfers. I hope you feel the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely ,

Tonya Knightly
CFO, EnviroVantage



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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM

From: Choe, Michael

Sent: Friday, April 2, 2021 10:28:24 AM

To: Choe, Michael

Subject: Please support the House Resources Recommendation of ITL for HB 229 – “Wake Boats”

Importance: Normal

Honorable State Representatives:

First of all, than you very much for your invaluable service to the great state of NH!

Please support the House Resources Committee bipartisan recommendation of ITL on HB 229.

Thank you. I attach below for your reference the note I sent to the Committee.

I am writing in the hopes that you will consider opposing HB 229 tomorrow given what I believe will be a detrimental effect on NH’s burgeoning recreational economy.

Since purchasing my place in Wolfeboro 8 years ago, I have personally “recruited” more than 5 Massachusetts families who were thinking about purchasing Cape homes to the lakes region. These families are, through substantial home renovations and their general activity in the area, a microcosm of the massive economic benefit that the lakes region recreation provides to the state’s economy. Every one of these families would cite the ability to boat on the lake as a key deciding factor in choosing the NH lakes region over the Cape or the islands. I believe that this is a powerful long term trend that can continue and seriously benefit the state over the long run.

Of course, as boaters, we must recognize the impact we have on the environment and on our neighbors and pursue our recreation responsibly. Based on my experience on our beloved Lake Winnepesaukee, I’m confident that the lake can be managed to provide for safe but fun boating, even with ballast boats, without the need for further legislative restrictions. I do know that the prospect of future restrictions on this activity will seriously dampen economic contributions to the state from its incredible natural resources.

Thank you for considering my note. I am available should any members wish to discuss this matter.

Best regards,
Mike Choe
199 Kingswood Road
Wolfeboro, NH 03894

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM

From: Michelle Davis

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 11:56:35 AM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: HB 229

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

HB229 Wake boat testimony NH LAKES.pdf ;Wake (ballast) boat position statement 20201211.pdf ;

Dear ChairRenzi and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 229 defining wake boat. Attached is written testimony from NH LAKES and a position statement regarding wake (ballast) boats containing more detailed information on this complex and important topic. I look forward to the opportunity to speak with you all on February 3 on this topic and other matters related to the health of New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes.

Sincerely,

Michelle Davis

Advocacy Program Coordinator, NH LAKES

p: 603.226.0299 | 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One | Concord, NH 03301

www.nhlakes.org

Working for clean and healthy lakes



Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM

From: Jeff Fontaine



Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:06:35 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: Vote no on HB 229

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

Commission-to-Study-Wake-Boats-Final-Report-1.pdf  New Hampshire Boating Economics.pdf 

Please vote against HB229. This bill is the first step in banning certain types of boats on our lakes. Banning a large percentage of boats on our lakes will do nothing to address the dubious environmental concerns, but will have a significant impact to the NH economy.

According to the National Marine Manufacturers Association (see attached), recreational boating creates 6069 jobs in NH and over \$320 Million dollars in recreational boat related spending. The passage of HB 229 will lead to a significant impact to recreational boating related spending in NH as it will lead to the reduction of boaters and boater spending in the state. Further, according to the 2019 US Bureau of Economic Analysis on Outdoor Recreation report, NH is in the top ten states in the country where the outdoor recreation economy represents a significant percentage of the state's GDP. Is now the time to hurt these already struggling businesses that rely so much on income from recreational boaters?


The supporters of HB 229 would like to legislate the removal of wakeboats from our state's waters. The concerns of these supporters could much better be met through education and awareness programs that would help to encourage responsible wakeboating.

Now is not the time to further hurt the already decimated recreation, hospitality, and restaurant industries that rely so much on the spending of NH boaters. These people have suffered enough during the past year due to the pandemic. Do the right thing and give these industries a chance to recover. Vote no on HB 229.

Thank You,

Jeff Fontaine
Responsible Wakeboat Operator
Candia, NH


Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: June Fichter
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:24:24 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
This letter is to support HB 229.pdf 

Lake Sunapee Protective Association


junef@lakesunapee.org

63 Main St, Sunapee, NH 03782

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: Pam Price
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:26:05 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Testimony from Hon. Pam Price HB 229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB 229 Testimony1.docx 

Thank you for allowing me to testify before you earlier today. My written testimony is attached for your reference.

Hon. Pam Price
Former four term state Representative
Member of HB137 Commission to study wake boats
Resident of Sunapee NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: Kim Ashworth
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:47:30 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Fwd: I oppose the house bill 229 to define wake boats
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Opposition to HB229.docx 

To the Honorable members of the Resource and Recreation and Development Committee.,

I have attached a copy of my testimony for your reference.

Thank you for letting me speak today.

Kim Ashworth
Resident of Gilford, NH

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kim Ashworth <kimashworth@comcast.net>
Subject: I oppose the house bill 229 to define wake boats
Date: February 2, 2021 at 8:15:23 PM EST
To: HouseResourcesRecreationandDevelopment@leg.state.nh.us

To whom it may concern.

I am writing you to let you know I oppose the bill 229 with the intend of defining wake boats.

My family and I have had a power boat in NH for over 10 years and it is a boat that can be used to cruise from one part of our lake to another. To go to breakfast lunch or dinner. We also use it for water skiing tubing, wake surfing and wake boarding. We also own waterfront property on Lake Winnepesaukee and have never seen any problems with wake boats causing any erosion issues on our shoreline

It is a truly family friendly boat and I do not want it to be defined as a wake boat which could cause it to be limited on certain lakes in NH just because one of the functions of the boat is wake boarding or wake surfing.
I appreciate you hearing my wishes and taking this into consideration when making your decision regarding bill number 229

Thank you
Kim Ashworth
Resident of Gilford, NH

Sent from my iPhone


Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: John Whalley
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 12:21:47 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Whalley Opposition Wake Boat Testimony 2/3/2021 HB 229
Importance: Normal
Attachments: John Whalley Wake Boat Testimony.docx¹;

Hello,

Attached is my testimony from HB 229.

Thank you,

John Whalley
Silver Sands Marina
603-293-7200

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: Bruce Silva
Sent: Sunday, February 21, 2021 8:19:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 - Please Vote No
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Sadie Surfing.png 

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

As a proud citizen of Hooksett living on the Merrimack River, I purchased the property due to the proximity to Manchester yet peaceful riverfront component that it provides me, my family, and on many occasions, my friends. The location truly does provide the benefit of the best of both worlds. The sense of pride extends to keeping the riverfront clean and even though I am a project manager by day, I collect trash along from the waterfront, a tributary, and along the better part of 6 linear miles of roadway in order to be mindful of the environment. On any given walk, trash collection has equated to two small bags and on earth day, upwards of dozen 13-gallon trash bags, misc. used ties, etc. I believe that we have to respect the earth and treat as the only home that we have, because it is.

I have been boating for almost 20 years. I fell in love with it as a child spending summer vacations at my aunt's small waterfront home on Chebacco Lake located in So. Hamilton, MA. Spending time there accounts for some of my fondest memories with my aunt. Over time I transitioned into a wake boat because of the low impact surfing has on my ever-aging body and the fact that I have found that surfing has relaxing effect on the body similar to that of yoga. Like other activities, I am also a responsible wake boat owner. We have approximately eight miles of boatable waterfront between the two dams. There are now many wake boats along this stretch and these boats offer a great opportunity to spend quality time with our family, friends, and even our dog. The time spent on the water continue make great memories (ref. the attached picture) as well as great stories. Boating has also allowed us to meet neighbors that otherwise wouldn't have met, resulting in some great new friendships. The folks that live along this stretch are mindful of their activities while out on the water, including staying towards the center of the river and a safe distance from other boats, kayakers, and paddle boarders. We, as well as other boaters, make an effort to educate others (including day boaters that have accessed the river via the public launch) that all boats, not just wake boats can produce swells based upon the speed of the watercraft that could potentially harm docks, other docked boats, or even the shoreline. We also emphasize that every operator owns the wake that they produce and that they should be mindful of that in order to eliminate the potential of damage to docks, boats, etc. The education has proved to be valuable over time and I would encourage the Committee to have this information shared as one of the requirements of the boating certificate course. It may also be helpful if the State were to require boating certificate owners to take a refresher course every 3 or 5 years.

In summary, I would like to thank the commission for their hard work in keeping boating safe. With regards to restricting wake boats, I am firm believer that education will resolve any issues, as it has here.

Sincerely,
Bruce Silva
14 Goonan Road
Hooksett, NH 03106
Cell: 603-494-4500

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:42:45 AM
From: Peter MacCallum
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 3:20:26 PM
To: peter@maccallumsboathouse.com; jwhalley@silversands.com
Subject: ITL on House Bill 229
Importance: Normal



March 25, 2021

Dear Honorable Representative:

On behalf of the NH Marine Trades Association (NHMTA) we write to ask you to **Support the bipartisan House Resources Committee Majority recommendation of ITL on House Bill 229.** The Association represents the interests of the marine related businesses in New Hampshire. Our mission includes promoting boating safety and preserving the health and beauty of New Hampshire waterways on which our livelihoods depend. Many of our members are multi-generational NH small businesses.

HB 229 singles out a style of boat for definition (a “wake boat”) for the purpose of future bans and restrictions. The issue of “wake boats” was studied by a year-long study Commission (2019-HB 137) and the approach taken in HB 229 was NOT a recommendation. The approach was determined to be divisive and hurt boaters and businesses following the laws because of a few bad apples on the waterways.

There is no reason to define a specific watercraft unless there is an initiative to ban or restrict its use in the future. Otherwise, why would a definition be necessary? Most boats are not singled out for definition and the focus of regulation is on educating the boat operator and enforcement of boating laws. It is important to remember that NH holds all public waters (including lakes and ponds over 10 acres) in “public trust”, meaning that they must benefit all people of the state, not just those who may reside on the water.

If HB 229 were to pass, the impact to New Hampshire’s recreational boating industry would be severe. New Hampshire’s recreational boating industry is important to the State and tourism economy. Based on data from 2018, the recreational boating industry has an annual economic impact in New Hampshire of \$1.2 billion and almost 6,700 direct and indirect jobs. It continues to grow. The bill has already created confusion and fear among our members and boaters that fear future bans and restrictions. Over 1200 people opposed HB 229, while it was supported by 135.

Instead of an approach that leads to future government bans on watercraft, NH Marine Trades Association, in partnership with Marine Patrol, has embarked on an effort to educate boaters on best practices while participating in wake sports. We believe the State should focus regulations on the behavior of the boater – not the boat. We ask the Legislature to let this work happen before any move towards restrictive legislation is considered.

In conclusion, NHMTA supports the House Resources Committee recommendation of ITL. We do not want to risk the jobs and economic impact associated with our industry, the investments which have been

made by boating families, and the favorable boating environment the state currently enjoys. Let's work together to improve boater behavior and support enforcement of current laws on our lakes to address user conflicts on the waterways.

Please vote "Yes" on Inexpedient to Legislate for HB 229.

Sincerely,

Peter MacCallum, President
MacCallum's Boathouse – Epsom, NH
peter@maccallumsboathouse.com
#736-4750

John Whalley, General Manager
Silver Sands Marina – Gilford, NH
jwhalley@siversands.com
#293-7200

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:31:33 PM
From: Melissa Sharples
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:01:24 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 - Wake Boats
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

I'm in support of HB 229, to regulate "wake boats". Sadly, our shoreline property on Bow Lake has been affected by the oversized waves created by these boats. They are too big and cause too much damage to be on lakes as small as Bow Lake. Bow Lake measures 1.2 miles wide, and our family property is located at one of the widest points. We see and feel the effects of these boats, even when they're in the middle of the lake ... over a half-mile away.

These effects are not simple ripples. They are waves that hit the shoreline and crash up onto our lawn, damaging the shoreline in the process. We're seeing massive erosion and damage to trees and bushes that have been part of this property since before our family bought it over 60 years ago. Roots are becoming exposed as the sand and dirt are washing away.

I've also seen the damage and worry that these boats cause to other boaters who are trying to enjoy the lake in pontoons, kayaks, canoes, or skiffs. It's scary watching these waves come at you when you're trying to navigate a kayak or fish in one of the coves. What's worse, the "wake boater" doesn't even know they're causing an issue for other boaters because they're so far away, it's out of sight, out of mind.

Motor boaters and pontoon boaters can spend the day in the middle of our lake giving inner tube rides, pulling skiers, or just opening up for a fun ride from one end to the other and there is NOTHING CLOSE to the impact that we've seen in just a few years with the wake boats. These boats are damaging our shoreline, and belong on the ocean.

Need proof? Consider this an open invitation to come and see for yourself.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Melissa Sharples
24 Fire Road 38
Strafford, NH
415-515-5751
melissa8b@mac.com

State Representative Sallie Fellows
Grafton 8, the towns of Holderness, Hebron and Plymouth

January, 31 2021

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chairman
Resources, Recreation and Development Committee

RE: HB 115 wake surfing and HB 229 wake boats

Dear Chairman Renzullo and Committee Members:

As legislators, our job is to protect the safety of all citizens without unduly constraining anyone's activities. We also have a responsibility to protect our natural resources. New Hampshire's diversity of landscapes and recreational opportunities is what makes our state special.

The high waves produced for wake surfing have the potential to endanger swimmers and kayakers. Those waves can also harm nesting loons, erode shorelines and damage docks. I support HB 115 and HB 229 because adding definitions to our statutes lays the foundation upon which balanced regulations can be developed.

Sincerely,

Rep. Sallie Fellows

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:30:53 PM

From: Glenn Cordelli


Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:31:39 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: HB229

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

Commission to Study Wake Boats - Final Report.pdf 

Good morning.

I signed on as a co-sponsor the HB229 regarding wake boats.

I understand that your public hearing on the bill is this afternoon but I have a conflict and will not be able to attend.


I wanted to let you know that I now have some reservations about the bill based upon the feedback and information I have received from constituents.

I had also forgotten about the commission that had been appointed during the last term. Their final report raises concerns that the committee should consider. I have attached their final report.

Thank you.

State Representative Glenn Cordelli

Carroll 4

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:44 PM
From: tullyz58@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:22:48 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: 'Susan Zipkin'
Subject: Country Pond (WGCOA) Land Owners OPPOSITION TO HB 229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Country Pond Land Owners in Opposition to HB229.pdf 

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My wife and I moved from Massachusetts and purchased our home on Country Pond in Newton NH in 1994.

We specifically purchased the property due to our love of the water and participating with our children and god children in wakeboarding, wake surfing, and other water based activities.

These activities, in particular wakeboarding and wake surfing, not only have added enjoyment to our lives but have instilled confidence and a love of the water in our children and godchildren.

Since moving to Country Pond, due to our concern for the lake, I acted as the founding president of the Country Pond Lake Association (CPLA) and Sue is now the acting secretary for CPLA. I was also the VP of Wilders Grove Cottage Owners Association (W.G.C.O.A) and Sue was treasurer.

In moving to Newton we have a substantial investment in New Hampshire real estate, have and continue to pay not only "standard" real estate taxes but additional "view taxes" and also have a substantial investment in a Wakeboard boat.

On Country Pond there are only four (4) wakeboard boats and typically only one or two are used for wakeboarding or wake surfing on a weekly basis. There are far more other types of boats and during a busy day the combination of the waves and wake produced by the number of boats is far more than that caused by a wakeboarder taking a few runs up and down the lake.

Another fact is that of the wakeboard boats on Country Pond, and this is generally true of most lake based wakeboard boats, stay on the lake for the entire season. Unlike fishing and other types of pleasure boats they are not taken from lake to lake.

Since 1994 we have only taken our boat off Country Pond three times.

Based on this fact the chance of a Wakeboard boat spreading invasive species is minimal. Yet if this ban is passed we will be forced to now transport our boat from lake to lake which will increase the likelihood of spreading invasive species between lakes.

Also regarding the "spread of invasive species" by wake boats water ballast tanks again typically wake boats stay on one lake but other boats, especially fishing boats which have fish holding wells which are filled with water from the lake, are typically taken from lake to lake thus having a higher likelihood of transferring invasive species.

As "water people" who own lakefront property we certainly want to ensure the health of the lake and preserve our investment. That said we feel that enforcement of existing regulations and education of not

just "tow boat" owners, but all boaters, not banning of a particular type boat is what is needed to protect the lakes.

Thank you for taking the time to read this correspondence and considering our opposition to HB 229.

Please consider opposing HB 229 as any type of boat, if used in an irresponsible manner , can cause environmental harm and annoyance to other boaters and lake property owners.

Therefor what is needed to protect our lakes and investments is your opposition to HB 229 and in place the education of boaters and enforcement of current laws – not singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions.

Please also see the attached names of actual land owners in the "Grove" who also oppose HB 229. There are approximately 65 houses in the Grove and with seasonal people not available it appears that with approximately 29 signers of the notice the vast majority of lake front land owners within the Grove on Country Pond oppose HB229.

Although time did not allow a full canvassing of all lake front land owners this result would indicate that the vast majority oppose HB 229

Thank you for your review and consideration of the above views regarding HB229.

Also thank you for your service to the residents of and, The State of New Hampshire.

Sincerely,

Tully & Susan Zipkin
58 Wilders Grove Road
Newton, NH 03858
603-819-3843

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:37 PM
From: Lynn Sweet
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:40:38 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229 Oppostion
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

Im writing this as an opposition against HB 229. I understand everyones concerns on both sides of the discussion, however there seems to be a great focus on one particular style boat and functions of said boat. As a property owner on one of NH lakes and an owner of a "wake" boat. I find it insulting that we are being categorized as menaces to our lakes.

I find that mother nature has more furry on our shore lines than any type of motor craft. My shore line takes a beating during any wind, high windstorms and ice out. Damage being more than any wave created by a boat (any type of boat).

I know my statement is very simple and does not get into the mechanics of the ins and outs of boats, nor do I pretend I know them all. And Im not going to point fingers at other types of watercraft or boaters that cause "issues" on our water. But what I do know is what I see, and as a responsible boat owner I ask that you oppose HB 229 and listen to those who do know the mechanics.

Thank you in advance for your time and service, Lynn Sweet

Lynn Sweet
Strafford NH, Bow Lake
603-765-5325
lynnsweet@metrocast.net

Bill as
Introduced

HB 229 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0264

11/04

HOUSE BILL **229**

AN ACT defining "wake boat."

SPONSORS: Rep. J. MacDonald, Carr. 6; Rep. Marsh, Carr. 8; Rep. Crawford, Carr. 4; Rep. Suzanne Smith, Graf. 8; Rep. Knirk, Carr. 3; Rep. Deshaies, Carr. 6; Rep. Tanner, Sull. 9; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Dontonville, Graf. 10; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 5; Rep. Wolf, Merr. 5

COMMITTEE: Resources, Recreation and Development

ANALYSIS

This bill defines "wake boat."

.....

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT defining "wake boat."

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Paragraph; Boating and Water Safety; Definition; Wake Boat. Amend RSA 270-D:1 by
2 inserting after paragraph XII the following new paragraph:

3 XII-a. "Wake boat" means any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments,
4 containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed to alter or enhance the
5 characteristics of the boat's wake, and is also known as a "ballast boat."

6 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

HB 229-Defining Wake Boats
Testimony in Opposition
The Honorable Pamela Price, Member of HB 137 Commission
Resident of Sunapee

Thank you Mr Chairman and members of the Committee. My name is Pam Price, former four term state Representative, a member of the HB 137 Commission to Study Wake Boats, a resident of Sunapee and an owner of a tow boat. I am here to testify in OPPOSITION to HB 229.

The bill you have before you today seeks to define wake boats. It simply defines one type of boat without specifying what is to be done with that definition. When I was in the legislature we identified problems, determined solutions and defined who the solution/change in law pertained to. This bill sets the definition without identifying a problem or a solution. A definition can only do one thing and that is lead to further restriction and regulation down the road. This was not a recommendation of the Commission.

The Commission heard from a number of organizations and departments on the subject. AIS spread is down because of vigilance on all boats. The manufacturers are adding new flush technology. The Water Sports Industry Association is leading a boater education and wake responsibly campaign, recommending in part that boaters stay 200' from shore while wakesurfing. We learned from a retired MIT engineer, who conducted a scientific wave action study that wakesurf waves are the largest just behind the boat and they subside quickly as they get closer to shore. The larger waves lose their energy quicker than the smaller waves. The study showed that the wake from wakesurfing was no different than a wave from a 10 mph wind. The busiest days on the lakes are weekends in the summer, an approximate 20 days which is much less impact on the shore than a year round wind. We received many letters, the majority from families who enjoy water sports and don't want to see them limited by banning or restricting types of boats. There is a segment of the population that dislike the boats and blame them for all the ills on their lake. We did not see evidence to support that.

The Commission was able to agree on a number of unanimous recommendations that are contained in HB115.

Personally, our family has participated in a range of water sports for over 30 years. We live on the water in the summer. We love our tow boat because we can do everything behind it-ski, wakeboard, surf, kneeboard and tube. Now we are sharing our love for the water with our two grandkids, ages 5 and 3. The confidence and excitement our grandson shows when kneeboarding, tubing, and yes, learning to wakesurf is priceless. Lake Sunapee was particularly busy this past summer as many families spent time together, outside, during the COVID pandemic.

The State of New Hampshire holds in trust all public waters for the use and the benefit of the people of the state. It is the governing principle to balance the competing uses of the public and shorefront owners. The State safeguards the right to use and enjoy public water by avoiding piecemeal on-water regulation. One of the key provisions is the reasonable use of the water resources. It is our responsibility to share the waterways responsibly and not allow one interest group to determine the fate of another.

The Commission had strong recommendations to improve boater behavior through education. There are clearly boaters who create problems that need to be addressed but HB 229 is not the answer. HB 229 takes a drastic step towards limiting the rights of people who have purchased a commercially available boat for the enjoyment of their family. There was no compelling evidence presented to subject law abiding boaters to future bans and restrictions. Without such evidence the boating community has the right to the reasonable use of New Hampshire's public waters.

I ask you to find this bill INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE.

Thank you.

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:23:42 PM
From: Meredith Marina
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:17:36 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

please oppose HB 229, to define Wake Boats. This will be a direct impact on sales, service and a huge impact on income and potential year round employment.

--

Meredith Marina - Front Office
Tracy Wujcik
603-279-7921
info@meredithmarina.com

www.MeredithMarina.com

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:24:30 PM
From: Kit Morgan
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:35:59 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Please support HB 229. My family has owned a camp on Silver Lake since 1969, and I am one of the many volunteers who work to keep the lake free of aquatic invasive species through "weed watching," the Lake Host program, and other efforts. Wake boats pose a significant risk of introducing invasive species through their ballast tanks, which are very difficult to clean and dry. Invasive species have many harmful environmental and economic impacts, and it is important to do what we can to keep them out, especially where they have not yet been introduced.

I am also concerned about the hazards to swimmers and other boaters from large wakes, and hope that this bill may lead to reasonable controls on wake boating.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christopher Morgan

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:38:04 PM
From: Lou Gargasz
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:57:13 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I am a property owner on Squam and Loon lake and am actively engaged in water sports with my family and friends including use of w Ski Nautique wake boat. I request you register my opposition to HB229..

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:42:39 PM
From: Joe Farrelly
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:31:03 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I am an avid wake boarder (age 65) and hope you will vote against HB 229. I fear the country is on a path of over regulation and don't see the need for the government to over regulate recreational activities. There are ample rules and laws regarding operations of water craft to allow Dept of safety officers to hand out tickets for improper operation
Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:44:03 PM
From: leanne withrow
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:13:51 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee;

We are writing to you today to express our family's opposition to HB 229, defining wake boats. Our family is from Pelham with extended family living in the surrounding areas. HB 229, defining wake boats, will lead to bans and restrictions on tow boats. This effort not only impacts our family's enjoyment of the lake, but also impacts us financially. To be honest, HB 229 quite literally keeps me up at night. I foresee two major issues for wake boat owners if HB 229 passes.

The first issue is related to trade ins. What happens to our ability to trade in our boats if HB 229 passes. No boat dealer in NH will want to take a wake boat in as trade if they cannot sell it. This would leave wake boat owners with no option but to sell their boats on the private market. A market that may not exist if HB 229 passes.

The second issue is what happens to the value of our boats? If wake boats are banned, the demand for wake boats will dry up and supply will skyrocket. This would cause our boats to depreciate substantially overnight putting myself and thousands of other NH boat owners in financial jeopardy. Let me explain why. Boats are not like cars. Cars are in the junkyard after 5 years. Boats can stay on the water for decades. The long lifespan of boats allows boats to hold their resale value. Wake boats in particular hold their resale value very well. It also allows banks to offer long term financing options. In order to make the financing work, most middle class families extend their loans for 10 to 15 years in order to keep the monthly payments down. They also rely on the boat's resale value to recoup their down payment when they are ready to sell the boat.

If wake boats are banned, myself and thousands of other hard working NH families will be forced to sell our boats on a market that has no buyers and is saturated with supply. This will result in most people owing more money on their loan than their boat is worth. This will make it very difficult to sell our boats since the bank owns the boat and we are selling the boat for less than the value of the loan.

At this point, myself and thousands of NH residents like me are going to be in serious financial trouble. We will be faced with a no win scenario where we have to choose between three very undesirable options. Come up with tens of thousands of dollars that we don't have to cover the depreciation and sell the boat. Keep a boat that we cannot use and keep making payments until we owe less than the boat is worth. Or in a worst case scenario, default on the payments and let the bank take the boat.

This is a difficult issue to bring to the legislature, but it is a real one. Thousands of NH residents like myself could be in serious financial trouble if HB 229 passes. I am not writing this letter to ask for your help. I am writing this letter begging you for help. Please do not pass HB 229. Not only will this bill take away something that three generations of my family enjoy using, but it will cause significant financial damage to myself and the hard working families of NH.

Kindest Regards,

The Withrow Family

The Spence Family

The Garrity Family

The Picard Family

**Leanne Withrow
Pelham, NH 03076
781.608.8455**

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:44:03 PM
From: Bob Dahl
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:12:01 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB229, aimed ultimately at restricting the use of "Wake Boats". I'm landowner who has a house on Squam lake for 20 years. Our family spends significant time at the lake every summer. The access to boating played a major role in our family's decision to choose NH for a vacation home.

I'm a bit surprised that a state whose motto is "live free or die" would consider placing significant restrictions on one particular type of boat. Wake boats make up a very small minority of the boating industry, and their impact is no greater than much larger and faster boats. Most often wake boats operate at slow speeds, making them safer for both operators and other boats.

If there is concern about erosion from waves, consider the impact of the frequent summer storms that send hours of larger waves onto the shoreline. These are orders of magnitude more significant than a few wake boats.

Please don't ruin our state for boating. Don't pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Robert Dahl
917 658-5717

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:11 PM
From: Chandler Jones
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:41:06 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

My family have been waterfront property owners in NH for 99 years and I have been a boater for 50 of those years. I have seen many types of boats pass by our dock over the years and to single out one type of boat for potential restriction is short sighted and discriminatory. Respectfully, anyone who is making this decision who has not spent a few hours on a dock at the lake on a busy sunny day does not have all the information necessary to single out "Wake Boats". There are many different boats that put up a large wake, as a matter of fact almost all boats depending on the speed driven and the proximity to shore can put up a "big" wake.

I feel education and enforcement of existing laws would be a better solution to the concerns of supporters of HB 229. I have had far more problems with wakes from typical inboard/outboard boats and vintage boats cruising the shoreline well inside the 150" rule than I have ever had with "Wake Boats". These operators create wakes that smash my boat into our dock on a regular basis. The operators of Wake Bats that I have witnessed stay much farther from shore allowing their wakes to diminish in size before reaching shore. In my experience operators are the problem not the boats.

Finally, watersports are an extremely family oriented outdoor activity that should be encouraged not limited. My parents taught me to waterski, I have taught my children and they have taught theirs. Thankfully this was one activity we all could do safely during the Covid-19 pandemic. I would hate to see such a positive activity limited by legislation.

I strongly oppose HB 229.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter.

Sincerely,
Chandler Jones
Vice president Abenaki Water Ski Club
And
Trustee for the 16 Haven Ln Trust
16 Haven Ln Alton Bay NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:11 PM
From: Warren and Lois Farrell
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:38:41 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Please know that we are opposed to HB 229.

Warren and Lois Farrell
38 Winter Harbor Way (since 1971)
Tuftonboro, NH.

603-651-9605

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:48:23 PM
From: Y-Landing Marina
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:42:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I wrote to you to express my opposition to HB 229. I wish for this Bill to be killed or at least tabled to allow for more discussion and research. Many boats on winnipesaukee produce large wakes, but people aren't trying to ban those large boats from our lakes. There has to be a better way to protect our shoreline and still allow our visitors and residents to enjoy and recreate on the lake.

David Hamblet
Boater/business owner

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:48:23 PM
From: Joyce Sharples
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:35:43 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives:

I am writing to you as an owner of lake front property adversely impacted by these so called "wake boats".

We own a property on Bow Lake which has been in our family since 1961. Our property is situated on a point with approximately 300 feet of shoreline. Throughout the years this property has been in our family, little has changed until the introduction of the wake boat. Now, our shoreline has been compromised and is disappearing.

Our property is at risk with every oversized wave these boats produce. These waves are so big they crash into and over the protective rocks of our shoreline.

These boats are so very different than the other boats on the lake; the wake they produce is HUGE! The waves these boats create will travel from the middle of the lake and not loose their powerful destructiveness. They are washing away the soil and rocks which protect our property and are compromising the stability of some of the largest trees on the lake. I believe these boats could/should be considered a violation of the Shore Line Protection Act.

These forceful waves also raise havoc with our dock, placing undo stress on the boat ties and loosening the dock struts.

As a boater, I fear for my safety when these boats are I use. I have seen pontoon boats tossed about because of these oversized waves. Our lake is too small to accommodate these boats, there is just not enough space to avoid their wake. Canoeing and kayaking in the mist of these oversized waves is unsafe and unfair. This type of boat should not be allowed to jeopardize the safety and enjoyment of so many others.

No lake boat should be allowed to produce a wave so large you can surf behind it; these boats should be restricted to the ocean.

I support this HB 229.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Respectively,

Joyce Sharples
24 Fire Road 38
Strafford, NH
757-323-0667
Jsharples1@live.com

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:44 PM
From: J ferguson
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:16:33 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Committee Members,

I am writing in support of House Bill 229 that proposes a definition of wake boats. These boats are unique vessels that need to be regulated in New Hampshire. My family has been living seasonally and now full-time on Bow Lake in Strafford/Northwood since 1941. I have seen all types of watercraft throughout the years. Nothing has caused the disruption and damage that the new wake boats are causing. My concerns are as follows:

1. The huge waves are dangerous. This summer my family's pontoon boat attempted to cross over wake boat waves from a boat that was already well down the lake from us. Our boat was swamped. The waves crashed OVER the front railings and seats. Luckily no one was hurt. The boat door broke. This illustrates how dangerous these waves are for other craft. My brother owns a small (under 10 horsepower) aluminum boat. We have concluded that it is not safe to venture out on the lake in his boat when these boats are operating. I have heard of kayaks being swamped but I have no first hand knowledge of this.
2. The erosion caused by the waves is significant. My property is protected somewhat but my neighbors and friends have experienced significant shore erosion in the last few years. Even when the boats are driven away from the shore, the waves are still sizable by the time they reach shore. They are the largest waves of any boats on the lake.
3. The huge waves pose a danger to both our natural and platform loon nests. Waves have been seen crashing over nesting platforms. Natural nests are very susceptible to changes in water level. The Loon Preservation Committee has concerns regarding this issue.

Thank you for your consideration of my concerns. I know that our lakes are a resource that all people and wildlife should safely be able to enjoy and inhabit.

Sincerely,
Jeannie Ferguson
23 Fire Road 38
Strafford, NH 03884

1-603-545-1654

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:56:27 PM
From: KATHLEEN CALLAHAN
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:08:25 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am opposed to HB 229 and do not think it should be passed. I enjoy water skiing and wake surfing on the NH lakes and do so responsibly.

Kathleen Callahan
617-755-5503

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:53 PM
From: Gravink, Jill
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:53:18 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Representative,

I am writing to oppose HB229. I run an adaptive sports program and water skiing is one of our most popular sports. It allows people to experience freedom, exhilaration and success in a way that is difficult to replicate. We use ski boats to tow skiers and personal watercraft as safety boats. This Bill has the potential to unintentionally impact several adaptive water skiing programs in the state as well as many responsible "wake boat" users.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jill Gravink, MS, CTRS/L
Director, Northeast Passage

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:54 PM
From: angela marriott
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:50:28 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

Please know that I do not support HB 229. I view this a the first step in restricting wake boats.

Sincerely,
Angela Marriott

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:11 PM
From: Shawn Thrasher
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:11:31 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Good morning,

I am a resident of Windham and Cobbetts pond. I am writing in opposition of House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. I would urge my representative to stand in opposition to this bill. This bill is thinly veiled move towards banning or restricting the use of these family friendly watercraft. I have had the pleasure of being raised participating in watersports with my family, and continue this joy with my young children, family, and friends. I do support the education of proper etiquette and boater awareness. However the defining of a specific group of boats and users is an infringement on my rights as a taxpayer, resident, and conscientious boater. The previous arguments made by NH Lakes of shore erosion and transmission of invasive species can hardly be attributed to one specific type of boat. Any boat, kayak, or paddle board that is moved from one body of water to another carries the risk of moving invasive species. Any vessel moving through the water will create a wake. Defining one specific category of boat would only be done in an effort to ban or restrict its use. I would strongly urge the committee to consider the NH families they would be effecting through the restriction of their passions. The boating and tourism sectors, as well as countless other. Please oppose HB 229

Regards,

--

Shawn Thrasher
Crown Energy Solutions
(603) 396-7848 cell
(603) 425-9393 office

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:38 PM
From: David Youngblood
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:12:19 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I oppose HB 229 and would like the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee to oppose it as well.

I own a home in Alton and am still an active boater for over 60 years. I am also an active member of the Abenaki Water Ski Club in Wolfeboro.

I believe this bill to be too broad affecting many more types of boats than it should be. I think educating boat owners and operators of wake type boats and boaters, in general, would go along to an equitable compromise.

Thank you

David Youngblood, President
Youngblood Co., Inc.
32 Ashland Street
Haverhill, Ma. 01830
dyoungblood@youngbloodeo.com
978-373-5607 phone
978-521-1572 fax

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:03:16 PM
From: Crystal Laliberte
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:59:52 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I hope this email finds you in good health.

Please note my *opposition* to HB 229 as it pertains to the definition and use of wake boats on public waterways. Do not hesitate to contact me for additional details.

Take care.

Crystal Laliberte
Executive Vice President
REI Service Corporation
11 S Main Street Suite 303
Concord NH 03301

Office 603 645 6450
Email claliberte@reiservice.com
Web www.reiservice.com



Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:16:52 PM
From: Linda K
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:39:55 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

I strongly oppose HB229, especially during this time where small businesses are suffering. I have been boating for over 40 years, and boating has evolved over those 40 years. Blaming a type of boat for problems is no different then blaming a fork for making people fat, or snowboards are dangerous to ski areas. Make rules for people, not inanimate objects.

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:38:49 PM

From: John Gargasz

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:36:03 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Cc: Bella Laura; Louis Gargasz; Kaitlyn Gargasz; iangargasz@gmail.com; Carolyn Gargasz

Subject: HB 299 opposition

Importance: Normal

I am opposed to HB 299 which is a first step towards banning wake and surf boats on nh lakes.

John Gargasz
91 N Pepperell Rd
Hollis NH 03049

with family residences on Loon Lake and Squam lake

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:28:14 PM

From: Karl R. Leinsing

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:51:43 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Cc: Chuck Grassie; Judith Spang

Subject: HB229 - Definition of a "Wake Boat"

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

Mooring Whips2.jpg ;

Dear Committee Members:

First, I want to thank you all for your service on the Committee. Here are some points to consider with HB229 in an attempt to define a "wake boat".

1. Defining a "wake boat" to limit wakes is like trying to define a "sports car" to limit fast cars. All cars can go fast and all boats can make a big wake. Best to just enforce the current NO WAKE, distance from shore, and "YOU OWN YOUR WAKE" laws. This is how we police "sports cars". We have speed limits.
2. Many "wake boats" can also be used for water skiing, tubing, knee boarding, cruising, going to dinner, touring, and activities that don't create a big wake. Many "wake boat" owners never even use their boat to make a big wake. They are a nice-looking sport boats used to bring friends and family together.
3. Where do you draw the line? Current definition of "wake boat" doesn't even capture all current wake boats. A boat made heavy with people and coolers can create a big wake and is currently used to wake surf or wake board. This is how wake boats got started. The current definition is therefore unfair, improper, and arbitrary. It is targeted at certain boats. Owners and manufacturers will find a way around the definition. The result is that it will not solve the problem.
4. Educate instead of irradiate! People create the big disturbing wakes and not "wake boats". Two recent students attending boating certificate course said they never were taught that they are responsible for their own wake. Also educate shore line property owners on how to park their boats perpendicular to shore with bow facing deep water. Use of mooring whips also helps to prevent boat damage from wakes. See picture attached. Also educate shore line property owners on proper vegetation they can grow to prevent erosion or other methods that also help the environment.
5. There are close to 100,000 registered boats in NH. Majority of these boats could be considered "wake boats", which is a big part of NH economy (sales, storage, service, etc.) and boat registration revenue.
6. The definition of "wake boat" is going down the same path as trying to define a "Jet-ski" in the past. The result was manufacturers adding one more seat so that the jet-ski was now considered a "boat" and now called a "PWC". Our new path with defining "wake boats" will also result in not solving the problem. Again... education and requirement of boating certificate solved more of the "jet-ski problem".
7. The definition will put undue burden on marine patrol. Marine patrol will be looking for "ballast tanks, bags, compartments, containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed

to alter or enhance the characteristics of the boat's wake". What does this even mean? What "system" is considered to enhance a wake? Almost all boats have "plumbing" of some kind. There are current features completely under a boat in the water than can't be seen that can enhance a wake. It is not fair to single out certain boats while other boats can still create a wake.

8. Boat owners will be unjustly detained when out on the water while marine patrol searches for "systems" in the boat that could make it a "wake boat".
9. Study's for any "wake boat" law or definition needs to consider wakes of other boats. Have boats of all types and sizes, including 42-foot boats, make a wake and compare the results. If a certain boat is made illegal, then people will just migrate to another boat and repeat the same activity. This is what happened with "jet-skies" and education and requirement of boating certificate ended up solving more of the problem.
10. Carefully look at any statements that say "wake boats" create significant shore line erosion. Compare against erosion caused by current flow in rivers, ice flow, lack of shore vegetation, lowering water levels, and tides.
11. Validate the complainers. People complaining about wakes usually greatly exaggerate to get their point across. When you actually analyze a boat following the law (distance and "own your own wake"), then the result is quite different from the descriptions of the people complaining. Stories of wakes going over 4-foot walls when a "wake boat" is 200 feet or more from shore is simply not true.

Thanks for your time to consider the bottom-line, which is ... all boats can make a big wake!

Regards,

Karl

Karl Leinsing
77 Spur Rd.
Dover, NH 03820
(603) 926-8216
(603) 203-0365 cell

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:36:20 PM
From: John Shelley
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:58:58 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Re: HB229 - I live on the water.
Importance: Normal

Hi, I forgot to mention in my last email that I am a waterfront owner. I have lived on Lake Opechee since 2003 which is a very active boating lake. My waterfront has a sandy beach and parts that are rocks and trees. In the last 17 years I have not seen any noticeable erosion on the shorefront.

Again, please vote NO for HB229 today. We will work hard to educate boaters about wake awareness.

Thank you.

--John

There is only now. Try to live accordingly.

On Tue, Feb 2, 2021 at 11:02 AM John Shelley <ovationdream@gmail.com> wrote:
To our honored representatives,

I wanted to speak at the hearing tomorrow but I am volunteering at a Vaccine Clinic so I cannot be on the call. Please accept this letter as my voice of objection and share it as you are able.

It is clear that a piece of legislation that simply defines a wake boat is useless on its own. It will no doubt have a follow up to try and create further legislation to limit the use or ban entirely boats that fall into this category. While I respect and understand why people find wake sports concerning, there should be an educational and training solution, not a legislative action.

- **IT UNFAIRLY TARGETS A SPECIFIC BOAT THAT IS NOT THE ONLY CAUSE OF THE CONCERNS.** The concern of those bringing forth this bill is about large wakes and how they may affect the shoreline and the comfort of others on the lake. Allow me to address this in several parts:
 - Large wakes are created by the water displacement of the boat. Every boat makes a wake. The larger and heavier the boat is the larger the wake produced. Large power boats with no ballast system at all create a very large wake.
 - Smaller boats can be used to create large wakes when you drive around in circles. Boats with tubers do this all the time.
 - A device other than a ballast can be added to a boat to create a large wake.
- **THERE IS NO DEFINITIVE PROOF THAT BOATS WITH BALLASTS ARE THE CAUSE OF EXCESSIVE SHORELINE EROSION.** Although some studies have been done, there is no clear proof that the waves produced by a boat with ballasts are significantly more damaging than other causes. Specifically:
 - All the other boats mentioned above can create large waves that travel to the shoreline.
 - A single stormy day with winds over 20mph creates more waves in that one day than my boat creates in an entire season.

- Ice is a significant natural cause of erosion to lake shorelines.
- **THE BOATING INDUSTRY WILL FIGHT THIS LEGISLATION.** Wake Boats are a billion dollar industry that make up a large percentage of pleasure boats catering to these sports. They will fight tooth and nail against any type of future legislation limiting the use of wake boats. This will translate into millions of dollars being wasted in courtrooms if such an unnecessary bill got passed.
- **UNENFORCEABLE.** Again, because the concern is with the size of the waves a boat produces not the boat itself (remember a ballast boat can be run with the ballasts empty) enforceability is a big question:
 - How exactly would you define a wave that is too big?
 - How would you measure it?
 - Who would enforce it?
 - Do you really think Marine Patrol has the resources to pull over every boat on the waterways and check to see if their ballasts are full?
- **THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WILL BE UNFAIRLY DENIED PARTICIPATION IN THESE FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES.** One of the reasons wake surfing has gained in popularity over the past decade is because old and young, experienced and inexperienced can enjoy this sport. It is safer than any other water sport, easier to learn, and a very fun and social way to enjoy time with friends and family. My sister who has never been able to waterski or wakeboard was able to learn to wake surf in just two days and she is anxious to do it some more next year. I can't tell you how uplifting it was for her.

To repeat, all we need is education and understanding. Those of us that enjoy wake sports just need to be considerate of our lakes and other boaters. In fact, there is already a campaign complete with signs that people are starting to put up on lakes around NH reminding wake sport enthusiasts of proper edicate: (1) Stay at least 200' from shore. (2) Have your "strong side" facing away from the shore. (3) Limit your passes in front of the same area - use the whole lake. (4) Keep noise levels reasonable.

Please do not pass HB229. It is unfair, unenforceable, and will be costly for the State of New Hampshire. It is unnecessary. Let our wake sport association work together with those that have concerns to keep boating safe and fun for all and do our best to protect our shore lines. It can and will be done, the work is already in process.

Sincerely,

John S. Shelley
 1345 Old North Main St.
 Laconia, NH 03246
 (603) 387-1206
ovationdream@gmail.com
 --John

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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:14 PM
From: John Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:07:41 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 - Please don't waist your time.
Importance: Normal

To our honored representatives,

I wanted to speak at the hearing tomorrow but I am volunteering at a Vaccine Clinic so I cannot be on the call. Please accept this letter as my voice of objection and share it as you are able.

It is clear that a piece of legislation that simply defines a wake boat is useless on its own. It will no doubt have a follow up to try and create further legislation to limit the use or ban entirely boats that fall into this category. While I respect and understand why people find wake sports concerning, there should be an educational and training solution, not a legislative action.

- **IT UNFAIRLY TARGETS A SPECIFIC BOAT THAT IS NOT THE ONLY CAUSE OF THE CONCERNS.** The concern of those bringing forth this bill is about large wakes and how they may affect the shoreline and the comfort of others on the lake. Allow me to address this in several parts:
 - Large wakes are created by the water displacement of the boat. Every boat makes a wake. The larger and heavier the boat is the larger the wake produced. Large power boats with no ballast system at all create a very large wake.
 - Smaller boats can be used to create large wakes when you drive around in circles. Boats with tubers do this all the time.
 - A device other than a ballast can be added to a boat to create a large wake.
- **THERE IS NO DEFINITIVE PROOF THAT BOATS WITH BALLASTS ARE THE CAUSE OF EXCESSIVE SHORELINE EROSION.** Although some studies have been done, there is no clear proof that the waves produced by a boat with ballasts are significantly more damaging than other causes. Specifically:
 - All the other boats mentioned above can create large waves that travel to the shoreline.
 - A single stormy day with winds over 20mph creates more waves in that one day than my boat creates in an entire season.
 - Ice is a significant natural cause of erosion to lake shorelines.
- **THE BOATING INDUSTRY WILL FIGHT THIS LEGISLATION.** Wake Boats are a billion dollar industry that make up a large percentage of pleasure boats catering to these sports. They will fight tooth and nail against any type of future legislation limiting the use of wake boats. This will translate into millions of dollars being wasted in courtrooms if such an unnecessary bill got passed.
- **UNENFORCEABLE.** Again, because the concern is with the size of the waves a boat produces not the boat itself (remember a ballast boat can be run with the ballasts empty) enforcability is a big question:
 - How exactly would you define a wave that is too big?
 - How would you measure it?
 - Who would enforce it?
 - Do you really think Marine Patrol has the resources to pull over every boat on the waterways and check to see if their ballasts are full?
- **THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WILL BE UNFAIRLY DENIED PARTICIPATION IN THESE FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES.** One of the reasons wake surfing has gained in

popularity over the past decade is because old and young, experienced and inexperienced can enjoy this sport. It is safer than any other water sport, easier to learn, and a very fun and social way to enjoy time with friends and family. My sister who has never been able to waterski or wakeboard was able to learn to wake surf in just two days and she is anxious to do it some more next year. I can't tell you how uplifting it was for her.

To repeat, all we need is education and understanding. Those of us that enjoy wake sports just need to be considerate of our lakes and other boaters. In fact, there is already a campaign complete with signs that people are starting to put up on lakes around NH reminding wake sport enthusiasts of proper edicate: (1) Stay at least 200' from shore. (2) Have your "strong side" facing away from the shore. (3) Limit your passes in front of the same area - use the whole lake. (4) Keep noise levels reasonable.

Please do not pass HB229. It is unfair, unenforceable, and will be costly for the State of New Hampshire. It is unnecessary. Let our wake sport association work together with those that have concerns to keep boating safe and fun for all and do our best to protect our shore lines. It can and will be done, the work is already in process.

Sincerely,

John S. Shelley
1345 Old North Main St.
Laconia, NH 03246
(603) 387-1206
ovationdream@gmail.com
--John

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:19 AM
From: Brodie Deshaies
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 10:00:27 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Karel Crawford
Subject: Rep. Deshaies and Rep. Crawford's Testimony on HB229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Testimony on HB229, Wake Boat Definition.pdf;

Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

Attached is a piece of written testimony from myself and Rep. Crawford. We hope you consider it and the resources provided within it prior to voting. Thank you and have a great rest of you week.

Best,
Rep. Brodie Deshaies

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:19 AM
From: Kim Ashworth
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:47:30 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Fwd: I oppose the house bill 229 to define wake boats
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Opposition to HB229.docx ;

To the Honorable members of the Resource and Recreation and Development Committee.,

I have attached a copy of my testimony for your reference.

Thank you for letting me speak today.

Kim Ashworth
Resident of Gilford, NH

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kim Ashworth <kimashworth@comcast.net>
Subject: **I oppose the house bill 229 to define wake boats**
Date: February 2, 2021 at 8:15:23 PM EST
To: HouseResourcesRecreationandDevelopment@leg.state.nh.us

To whom it may concern.

I am writing you to let you know I oppose the bill 229 with the intend of defining wake boats.

My family and I have had a power boat in NH for over 10 years and it is a boat that can be used to cruise from one part of our lake to another. To go to breakfast lunch or dinner. We also use it for water skiing tubing, wake surfing and wake boarding. We also own waterfront property on Lake Winnepesaukee and have never seen any problems with wake boats causing any erosion issues on our shoreline

It is a truly family friendly boat and I do not want it to be defined as a wake boat which could cause it to be limited on certain lakes in NH just because one of the functions of the boat is wake boarding or wake surfing.
I appreciate you hearing my wishes and taking this into consideration when making your decision regarding bill number 229

Thank you
Kim Ashworth
Resident of Gilford, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:19 AM

From: Jake Ellis

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 6:36:18 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

Oppose HB229.docx ;

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:20 AM
From: Brie Stephens
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:50:00 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Testimony- HB229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
testiomony final.pdf ;

Hi there, below and attached is my written testimony in opposition of HB 229.

Please confirm receipt. Thank you!

Good morning/afternoon committee members. Thank you for having me here today and listening to my concerns in regards to HB 229. My name is Brie Stephens and I am the proprietor of a real estate company in the Lakes Region of NH. I reside in Moultonborough and dock my Mastercraft boat on Lake Winnepesaukee in Center Harbor Bay. I am an elected member of the town of Moultonborough's Planning Board, a member of the Development Committee for the Lake Winnepesaukee Association as well as a volunteer and member for the Loon Preservation Committee.

I have always been privileged to enjoy all the opportunities that growing up on a lake has to offer. Whether it was in a canoe, driving a jet ski, or being towed behind the family's boat, these wonderful activities are what living in New Hampshire is all about. I am an avid boat captain and weather dependent, I try to enjoy being on the lake almost every day in the summer months. I enjoy our tow boat for personal and work-related purposes whether it be for cruising around the lake, taking clients to showings or teaching friends, family and clients how to wake surf. I host surf & cruise nights with clients and members of the community weekly during the summer months. You can often find my husband or myself teaching new surfers of all ages from 7 to 70 the thrill of surfing, tubing or water-skiing on our beautiful lake.

It has been my observation from spending my life boating that it is not the type of boat that causes problems to the recreational or environmental structure of the lakes but rather a problem from the operators standpoint or natural destructive occurrences. Boaters need sounder education on many issues. I have seen countless boats operating in total disregard to the very laws that are there to protect people as well as the shoreline. Boats of all kinds and types do not follow the rules regarding operating at the required distance to shore or how to drive the boats at a safe distance from others as well as total disregard for speed limits and no wake zones. These are the biggest problems I see. I tend to surf in the pre-sunset hours and mostly on weekdays because of the amount of waves the general lake has with the large influx of boaters on the weekends piloting all kinds of boats. I also see ice being the major culprit to most of the erosion problems year after year with the damage it causes on docks, retaining walls and simply the natural shoreline itself.


In conclusion, I am strongly opposed to HB 229 and strongly urge the committee to be opposed as well. I appreciate your time and consideration and urge the focus to shift from tow boats to a focus on boater education and rule enforcement. We should all EQUALLY be able to enjoy the lake life and the opportunities that they offer as long as we do so responsibly. - Brie Stephens




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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:20 AM
From: Jeff Fontaine
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:06:35 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Vote no on HB 229
Importance: Normal

Attachments:
Commission-to-Study-Wake-Boats-Final-Report-1.pdf;New Hampshire Boating Economics.pdf;

Please vote against HB229. This bill is the first step in banning certain types of boats on our lakes. Banning a large percentage of boats on our lakes will do nothing to address the dubious environmental concerns, but will have a significant impact to the NH economy.

According to the National Marine Manufacturers Association (see attached), recreational boating creates 6069 jobs in NH and over \$320 Million dollars in recreational boat related spending. The passage of HB 229 will lead to a significant impact to recreational boating related spending in NH as it will lead to the reduction of boaters and boater spending in the state. Further, according to the 2019 US Bureau of Economic Analysis on Outdoor Recreation report, NH is in the top ten states in the country where the outdoor recreation economy represents a significant percentage of the state's GDP. Is now the time to hurt these already struggling businesses that rely so much on income from recreational boaters?

The supporters of HB 229 would like to legislate the removal of wakeboats from our state's waters. The concerns of these supporters could much better be met through education and awareness programs that would help to encourage responsible wakeboating.

Now is not the time to further hurt the already decimated recreation, hospitality, and restaurant industries that rely so much on the spending of NH boaters. These people have suffered enough during the past year due to the pandemic. Do the right thing and give these industries a chance to recover. Vote no on HB 229.

Thank You,

Jeff Fontaine
Responsible Wakeboat Operator
Candia, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Shane Carey
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 8:09:38 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: opposition to HB229
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Testimony of Shane Carey in Opposition to HB 229.docx ;

To The House/Resource and recreation development committee,
Here is a copy of what I would like to testify to on Wednesday February 3rd during the hearing of HB229. I am opposed to defining wake boats. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. How will I know when it is my time(turn) to speak during the hearing?

Thank you
Shane Carey
Nottingham NH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Sallie Fellows
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 6:07:00 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB115 & HB229 Support
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB 115 & HB 229 testimony.pdf;

Dear Chairman Renzullo and Committee Members:

As legislators, our job is to protect the safety of all citizens without unduly constraining anyone's activities. We also have a responsibility to protect our natural resources. New Hampshire's diversity of landscapes and recreational opportunities is what makes our state special.

The high waves produced for wake surfing have the potential to endanger swimmers and kayakers. Those waves can also harm nesting loons, erode shorelines and damage docks. I support HB 115 and HB 229 because adding definitions to our statutes lays the foundation upon which balanced regulations can be developed.

Sincerely,

Rep. Sallie Fellows

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM

From: Michael Whitcher

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 3:23:37 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: To the Honorable Members of the House Resources HB229

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources.pdf ;

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM

From: Michelle Davis

Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 11:56:35 AM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: HB 229

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

HB229 Wake boat testimony NH LAKES.pdf ;Wake (ballast) boat position statement 20201211.pdf ;

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 229 defining wake boats. Attached is written testimony from NH LAKES and a position statement regarding wake (ballast) boats containing more detailed information on this complex and important topic. I look forward to the opportunity to speak with you all on February 3 on this topic and other matters related to the health of New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes.

Sincerely,

Michelle Davis

Advocacy Program Coordinator, NH LAKES

p: 603.226.0299 | 17 Chenell Drive, Suite One | Concord, NH 03301

www.nhlakes.org

Working for clean and healthy lakes



Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM

From: Benjamin McMahon

Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 7:34:08 PM

To: ~House Children and Family Law Committee; ~House Commerce Committee; ~House Criminal Justice and Public Safety; ~House Education Committee; ~House Election Law Committee; ~House Environment and Agriculture Committee; ~House Executive Departments and Administration; ~House Finance Committee; ~House Fish and Game Committee; ~House Health Human Services and Elderly Affairs; ~House Judiciary Committee; ~House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services; ~House Legislative Administration; ~House Municipal and County Govt; ~House Public Works and Highways; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; ~House Rules Committee; ~House Science Technology and Energy; ~House State-Federal Relations and Veterans Affairs; ~House Transportation Committee; ~House Ways & Means Committee

Subject: PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

Importance: Normal

Dear Legislators

I live on Pawtuckaway Lake at 22 Cahill Lane in Nottingham NH with my wife and daughter. We own a Nautique wakeboard boat that we raised my child and her cousins and friends the great sport of wakeboarding and wakesurfing. I have been a NH resident my whole life and enjoy this state because I am able to spend my summer doing these activities. We feel education of all boat operators is a priority, and should be taken up by this body before beginning the exclusion of certain people from using public waters like myself (which HB229 is the beginning of a process to do so).

PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOUSE RESOURCES COMMITTEE BIPARTISAN MAJORITY REPORT OF "INEXPEDIENT TO LEGISLATE" ON HB 229

Ben

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Tom Daniels
Sent: Monday, February 8, 2021 11:49:34 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Honorable Committee,

I am writing to express my support for HB 229 which defines a wake boat. I live on a small lake and the wakes from a regular motor boats can erode the shoreline. It scares me to think of the damage, not only to the shoreline but to our loons as well ,that a wake boat would create. I am not in favor of infringing on NH citizens' freedoms, but I believe we need to act prudently when the exercise of those freedoms impacts the things that makes NH so special.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tom Daniels
90 Mendums Landing Road
Barrington, NH 03825
603-825-6099

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM

From: Diane Hanley

Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 6:07:09 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 3:00 pm - HB229 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

Good afternoon and thank you for taking my testimony today.

Lake Winnepesaukee Association has been advocating for the Big Lake for over 40 years. LWA's primary focus is on protecting water quality. We support the wide variety of uses by motor boaters and others on Winnepesaukee, as long as those uses are not disproportionately harmful to water quality.

Due to the newness of wake boarding, there is not a large body of data on their impact. But, we have received dozens of reports from our members and others that they are witnessing seemingly more and significant erosion to the shoreline and churning of the lake bed in relation to the use of wake boats. Both of these things can have a dramatic impact on water quality—promoting the increase in phosphorous, which increases milfoil, algae and other plant growth, and reduces water clarity and fish stocks.

The increasing popularity of wake boats and the increase in residents directly observing changes to water quality is likely to continue. All the lake-using constituents, boaters, kayakers, swimmers, etc., deserve a way to define the issue so that their needs can be addressed. Lake Winnepesaukee Association urges you to support HB 229 in this session.

DH

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Brodie Deshaies
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 10:03:49 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Karel Crawford
Subject: Re: Rep. Deshaies and Rep. Crawford's Testimony on HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

It seems my computer did not properly transpose the pdf that is the letter from myself and Rep. Crawford on HB229. I will copy and paste it here:

Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

When Rep. John MacDonald first showed us HB229, we had some reservations about becoming co-sponsors. We were struck with fears of burdensome regulations that could hurt our communities' tourism and boating industries. However, Rep. MacDonald showed us a recently commissioned study that was conducted by state officials, lawmakers, environmentalists and representatives from boating and recreation groups. Here is the [Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats](#).

If you go to page 19, you can see the rationale behind this legislation. Defining wake boats will help our legislature, law enforcement, the boating industry, and environmentalists come to a compromise that is acceptable to everyone. This bill currently does not affect anyone in any demonstrable way.

This study explains:

“Successful examples of this approach are found in RSA 270:73 through RSA 270:74-a.”

“These statutes currently allow the Department of Safety to prohibit the operation of ski craft on certain bodies of water, within 300 feet of shore, and within 300 feet of shore in certain coves less than 1,000 feet in width. These laws were enacted when conflict arose between shore front property owners and ski craft operators. The resulting regulations along with manufacturing changes have all but eliminated the need for these statutes as conflicts are rarely reported.”

“Similar restrictions, as determined by the Legislature, for wake/ballast boats would result in a compromise between those who are concerned about the effects of wake boats and the water sports enthusiasts. It would also allow for industry recommendations to become law (no towing within 200 feet of shore) that otherwise would be ignored for lack of consequences. This process would also require the petitioners to meet established criteria before any public hearings are entertained, thus eliminating nuisance attempts at unnecessary regulations.”

Unless the legislature defines the thing it is regulating, then it cannot enforce those laws that regulate the said thing. There are specific safety concerns and environmental hazards that wake boats create. You can find a pamphlet with a brief explanation of those concerns [here](#). These issues need to be addressed. The way to address these concerns is with minimal regulations, like the state has done in the past with ski boats or other watercraft. Currently, the wake boat education initiative that was described by marina owners and boating industry lobbyists is not sufficient. In no measurable way has it decreased any of the identified safety or environmental hazards.

It is also worth mentioning that the ability to use wake boats will not be affected by HB229. HB229 does not establish any regulations and it is not an attempt to ban wake boats. Wake boats are an important part of our local economies, but so are our lakes, rivers, and the health of our environment.

To reiterate, the purpose of this bill is not to ban wake boats or to hurt any specific industries. We have a system that prevents attempts at unnecessary regulations. The purpose is to help protect our environment, our tourism industry, and yes, the boating industry. The lakes are our communities' (Wolfeboro, Tuftonboro, Moultonborough, and Sandwich) most important economic resource. If it is not shared equally and preserved, it would hurt our local economy. Our boating industry is part of this and must be strongly considered and supported. This bill will get the ball rolling on common sense legislation that will be acceptable to everyone. We encourage you to support HB229 so we can continue this important discussion. Thank you.

Best,
Rep. Brodie Deshaies
Carroll 6, Wolfeboro
Rep. Karel Crawford
Carroll 4, Moultonborough

From: Brodie Deshaies <Brodie.Deshaies@leg.state.nh.us>
Sent: Thursday, February 4, 2021 10:00 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
<HouseResourcesRecreationandDevelopment@leg.state.nh.us>
Cc: Karel Crawford <Karel.Crawford@leg.state.nh.us>
Subject: Rep. Deshaies and Rep. Crawford's Testimony on HB229

Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

Attached is a piece of written testimony from myself and Rep. Crawford. We hope you consider it and the resources provided within it prior to voting. Thank you and have a great rest of your week.

Best,
Rep. Brodie Deshaies

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Thomas Ferguson
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 6:42:47 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the bill and to advocate in support. My family has owned property on Bow Lake in Strafford since the 1930s. We moved up to camp every Summer for my entire youth. I am now 66. My parents retired and died there. My siblings have lived there at various times including the present. My children come home every Summer to visit the camp. We all commuted to jobs on the seacoast during the Summer. My parents and sister year round.

For all of us the evenings were cherished for water skiing, pontoon boating, canoeing and sailing. Now there are at least four wake surfing boats permanently located at this small lake. More are brought in by visitors from the surrounding communities plus vacationers from in and out of state. It is not unusual to see two or three on the lake any evening. As for the weekends, forget it. They are out there for hours going back and forth, back and forth. Each boat may have four or five surfers awaiting their turn.

I have had a wave come over the bow of our pontoon while crossing the wake one of these boats a hundred yards away. I never use my 12 ft runabout when they are around because it is simply not possible to avoid the waves. The lake is not big enough for them to dissipate sufficiently. I am hesitant to use the sailboat because, in order for the wake boat to create a sufficient wave the stern is lowered significantly into the water, thus raising the bow and creating a line of sight issue.

I want to be clear. These boats are unmistakable. I have yet to see another type of boat used for this purpose. Other types of boats are used for skiing, wakeboarding, tubing and such. Wake boats can be used for these activities as well. However, they are the only ones specifically equipped by the manufacturer for this particular purpose. Therefore, I believe that the definition of these boats is both proper and necessary.

During the hearing, others have expressed their concerns regarding the issues of erosion, the environmental problems and property damage. I believe that safety is a concern as well. Definition of the activity and the equipment are essential for any education programs and requirements or regulations that may become necessary. This is no different than any of the other types of watercraft that have been developed over time such as personal watercraft.

Again, thank you very much for the opportunity to be heard.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS A. FERGUSON
Portsmouth, NH
603-767-8111
thosferguson@comcast.net

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM

From: wendy pantle

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:44:19 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives,

I am writing in support of HB229 concerning wake boats.

My family owns a summer place on Lake Winnepocket, my children are the seventh generation to enjoy this special spot. Recreation on the lake for as long as we have been there has included canoeing, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding, swimming, sailing, windsurfing and some waterskiing and tubing behind boats with conventional outboard motors. The lake is home to fish, turtles, a blue heron, otters, and other aquatic animals and bird life. Every year we hold our breaths to see if there are any baby loons born to the resident pair.

For the past few summers, there has been the addition of a wake boat on the lake. Lake Winnepocket is way too small for this boat and the disruption and destruction it is causing. The lake is not wide enough to allow the extremely large waves to dissipate before they reach the shores and therefore the waves generated by the boat's wake crash into the shoreline. I am concerned it is disrupting the fragile balance of the ecosystem at the lake - last year for the first time that I am aware of, Lake Winnepocket experienced Cyanobacterial blooms. The wake boat is disturbing the wildlife, it is disturbing the animal habitats, and it is disturbing the other residents' quiet enjoyment of the lake. In addition, I believe this type of boat on such a small lakes presents a safety hazard. The speed at which this boat travels and the size of the wake it generates endanger the swimmers, kayakers and paddle boarders on the lake.

I am advocating the new definition of wake boats and encourage legislation to keep wake boats off small lakes like Lake Winnepocket. It is essential to put this legislation in place before more irreversible damage is done.

Thank you for your efforts on this bill and for everything you do for the state of New Hampshire.

Best,
Wendy Pantle

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Marie Mayotte
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:49:41 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB229
Importance: Normal

This bill is unnecessary. Wakeboats are no more and no less destructive to the environment than any other boat. On Lake Winnepesaukee, large cabin cruisers kick up more wake if such a thing is actually a concern. It shouldn't be an issue that requires legislation. As long as boating laws and guidelines are followed, everyone can coexist peacefully.

I have lived in Moultonborough on Lake Winnepesaukee for 40 years. My husband and I and all members of my family (4 grown children and their children) ski, wakeboard, and surf every summer weekend. We do so in a courteous manner, as do our neighbors.

As a 40-year resident on the lake, I have not witnessed any damage to the environment and no erosion along our shoreline in Moultonborough. I respectfully wish to go on record as being opposed to HB229.

Marie Mayotte
Red Brick Clothing
17 Dracut Rd.
Hudson, NH 03051
603-882-4100
RedBrickClothing.com

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Nance
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:02:57 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Wake boats need to be regulated at least on small lakes and ponds. The wake makes water go over docks and land with a lot of force. They also make it easier for invasive species to move from one water body to another because of the water being held in the boat, not completely draining.
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Will Reepmeyer (US - ADVS)
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:11:40 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please oppose HB229
Importance: Normal

Hi,

I am a owner of lakefront property on Winni. And a boat owner. I see zero good reason to designate 'wake boats' as a separate boat category. All the arguments for it could be applied to other types of boats (including, for example, the large cabin cruisers and speed boats on the lake). Nonsensical in my opinion.

Thank you for your time,

Will Reepmeyer

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Lisa
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:28:09 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: [BULK] HB229
Importance: Normal

To Whom it May Concern,
I am very opposed to this bill. I own my home, on Lake Winnepesaukee, and I own a Wake Boat. My family and I enjoy tow sports, and our boat for many reasons. It seats a lot of people, and offers us a way to recreate. This type of boat shouldn't be classified any differently than other inboard boats or any other type of boat. Also, wake surfing can be done behind many other types of boats and crafts, not just wake boats. This legislation seems very discriminatory. Carvers make more wake than these boats. Please consider not defining these any differently than other boats.

Thanks for your time,
Lisa Meeken

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Purr Whalley
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:06:44 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

The Resource Committee has a long history of working together to find ways to make our lakes accessible to all its citizens. With the establishment of Boater Safety Certification, boaters have learned the rules of safe boating, which should certainly be enforced. To single out one specific group of boats goes against much of what your committee has stood for many years. I oppose HB229 and respectfully ask that you, as members, do as well.

Purr Gow Whalley
Alton Bay, NH

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Purr Whalley
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:45:14 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

The Resource Committee has a long history of working together to find ways to make our lakes accessible to all its citizens. With the establishment of Boater Safety Certification, boaters have learned the rules of safe boating, which should certainly be enforced. To single out one specific group of boats goes against much of what your committee has stood for many years. I oppose HB229 and respectfully request that you, as committee members, do as well.

Yours sincerely,

Purr Gow Whalley
Alton Bay, NH

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Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Suzanne Vail
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:39:53 PM
To: Judith Spang
Cc: Suzanne Smith; ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Re: Background information on Wake Boats and the Work of the Commission
Importance: Normal

Suzanne,

Thank you for the link to that report!

Suzanne Vail
NH State Representative
Nashua Ward 3, Hillsborough 30
House Committee on Resources, Recreation & Development
Hillsborough County Executive Committee
(603)234-0704

On Jan 31, 2021 4:04 PM, Judith Spang <judith@kestrelnet.net> wrote:

Thank you, Suzanne.

I've been trying to explain to each of those letter writers that the bills have NOTHING to do with banning these boats--- in fact to make them safer.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2021, at 11:22 AM, Suzanne Smith <Suzanne.Smith@leg.state.nh.us> wrote:

Dear Chair Renzullo and colleagues on the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

I am writing today as prime sponsor of HB115 and cosponsor of HB229. I also served on the Commission to Study Wake Boats as its chair.

As you will see, from reading the introductory paragraphs of the Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats, the Commission met 8 times, heard from experts on many issues related to wake boats and the waters where they are used.

It is a lengthy report, but worth, at least, skimming — and please read the sections on Next Steps and Legislation. Here is the link to the Commission's website. Click on reports to see the final report. (<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1434/>)

HB115 was recommended by the Department of Safety-Marine Patrol and was recommended by the entire Commission. It is all about safety and brings the rules for wake surfing in line with waterskiing statutes. It additionally defines wake surfing and what type of boat may be used for this popular sport.

HB229 - Although the commission members did not agree that defining what a wake boat is was important to determine, there are many people we heard from who think any boat that produces a wake is a wake boat. And many of those who have written to the Resources Committee, believe

that HB229 will ban the use of wake boats. This is not the case. Even among Commission members various terms were tossed about when we discussed wake boats. As the report states, In the many emails received by the committee, the terms wake boat/tow boat and ballast boat were used interchangeably, and elsewhere in this report, the term "wake boats" is considered a slang term. It was suggested that defining these boats would be helpful for the public and boaters alike."

Thank you for your consideration of these pieces of legislation.

Suzanne

Rep. Suzanne Smith
Grafton 8, Plymouth, Hebron and Holderness

Resources, Recreation & Development Committee
Aquatic Exotic Weeds and Species Committee
Dock Commission
State Park Advisory Council

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Cyndy
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:12:39 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boat designation
Importance: Normal

Dear House members,

Categorizing boat designations for the purpose of future restriction of use or prohibition of use in a state which prides itself on encouraging tourism is unconscionable. Many of the lakes in NH are sanctuaries for hard working taxpayers who live or vacation on or near these bodies of water. Although I agree there needs to be a balance between conservation efforts and human interactions with our environment, passing laws that will adversely affect so many boat owners is wrong. These boat owners are your constituents. Limiting the size of boats allowed on lakes and ponds is understandable but prohibiting wake boats when so many of the taxpayers on these waters are wake boat owners is just not right. HB229 is the start of a process to ban such boats. This should not be a state regulated decision. Leave this decision to individual towns and cities to decide what is best for their lake communities. This bill will hurt businesses related to recreation and tourism. Tourist will go elsewhere to boat and our state and local business will suffer. There may even be an exodus of homeowners from lake communities to other states that allow wake boats. Please consider not moving forward with this bill. Thank you.

Cynthia Finn
18 Bell Rd
Windham, NH 03087

Sent from C Finn's iPhone

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Judith Spang
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 4:04:08 PM
To: Suzanne Smith
Cc: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Re: Background information on Wake Boats and the Work of the Commission
Importance: Normal

Thank you, Suzanne.

I've been trying to explain to each of those letter writers that the bills have NOTHING to do with banning these boats— in fact to make them safer.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2021, at 11:22 AM, Suzanne Smith <Suzanne.Smith@leg.state.nh.us> wrote:

Dear Chair Renzullo and colleagues on the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

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As you will see, from reading the introductory paragraphs of the Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats, the Commission met 8 times, heard from experts on many issues related to wake boats and the waters where they are used.

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HB115 was recommended by the Department of Safety-Marine Patrol and was recommended by the entire Commission. It is all about safety and brings the rules for wake surfing in line with waterskiing statutes. It additionally defines wake surfing and what type of boat may be used for this popular sport.

HB229 - Although the commission members did not agree that defining what a wake boat is was important to determine, there are many people we heard from who think any boat that produces a wake is a wake boat. And many of those who have written to the Resources Committee, believe that HB229 will ban the use of wake boats. This is not the case. Even among Commission members various terms were tossed about when we discussed wake boats. As the report states, In the many emails received by the committee, the terms wake boat/tow boat and ballast boat were used interchangeably, and elsewhere in this report, the term "wake boats" is considered a slang term. It was suggested that defining these boats would be helpful for the public and boaters alike."

Thank you for your consideration of these pieces of legislation.
Suzanne

Rep. Suzanne Smith
Grafton 8, Plymouth, Hebron and Holderness

Resources, Recreation & Development Committee

Aquatic Exotic Weeds and Species Committee
Dock Commission
State Park Advisory Council

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:21 AM
From: Suzanne Smith
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2021 11:21:51 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Background information on Wake Boats and the Work of the Commission
Importance: Normal

Dear Chair Renzullo and colleagues on the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

I am writing today as prime sponsor of HB115 and cosponsor of HB229. I also served on the Commission to Study Wake Boats as its chair.

As you will see, from reading the introductory paragraphs of the Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats, the Commission met 8 times, heard from experts on many issues related to wake boats and the waters where they are used.

It is a lengthy report, but worth, at least, skimming — and please read the sections on Next Steps and Legislation. Here is the link to the Commission's website. Click on reports to see the final report.
(<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1434/>)

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HB229 - Although the commission members did not agree that defining what a wake boat is was important to determine, there are many people we heard from who think any boat that produces a wake is a wake boat. And many of those who have written to the Resources Committee, believe that HB229 will ban the use of wake boats. This is not the case. Even among Commission members various terms were tossed about when we discussed wake boats. As the report states,

In the many emails received by the committee, the terms wake boat/tow boat and ballast boat were used interchangeably, and elsewhere in this report, the term "wake boats" is considered a slang term. It was suggested that defining these boats would be helpful for the public and boaters alike."

Thank you for your consideration of these pieces of legislation.
Suzanne

Rep. Suzanne Smith
Grafton 8, Plymouth, Hebron and Holderness

Resources, Recreation & Development Committee
Aquatic Exotic Weeds and Species Committee
Dock Commission
State Park Advisory Council

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: Brian Giovagnoli
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 10:47:44 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposing Wake boat
Importance: Normal

I am opposing HB229. Me my wife and our family and entire extended family love to surf and enjoy all water sports behind our boat. Surfing is done at really slow speeds (around 11mph) and in straight lines compared to any other boat goin fast and crazy pulling a tuber. We have always boated on Newfound and my mother lives close to the lake (Donna Giovagnoli). Me and my brother pay for the taxes so she can afford to live/keep the small cottage/house and so we can enjoy the water all summer long, and would hate to potentially someday stop doin what we work so hard to pay for end. Thank you very much

Brian Giovagnoli

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: Charles Thomas Brown
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2021 8:19:47 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake Boat Hearing HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee members:

I speak in opposition to any restriction on Wake Boats by HB229, and here is our reasons why. Two years ago our son and his family purchased a Wake Boat and they keep it at and use it at our cottage on Pleasant Lake in Deerfield. To be honest we were concerned about the effects it would bring to the lake shore etc.. My son operates it for hours every weekend and with absolutely NO problems to Lake Erosion or any other safety concern. He waits until he is in the middle of the lake to take on water and then operates at the recommended headway speed of 11mph with his family surfing off the back. The wakes subside completely before reaching the shore. Bottom line is the Wake Boats are fun and well-designed if they are used as they are recommended. It is the user and how they use it responsibly that is the concern.

Not the Wake Boat.

Tom and Margie Brown

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: Daniel F Weidner
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:30:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

We are residents of Bedford, and have been boating on Lake Wentworth for generations. We have enjoyed wake surfing as a family for quite a number of years. Of course the kids love it, but it has been nice for the older generation too as you travel at a low speed and it's not so much stress on the body. It's all about balance. It has been a great family activity for us, especially in these challenging times. We would hate to see this restricted.

We have not seen any issues on the lake. We are lucky to be able to keep our boat on just one lake so moving weeds or other critters in not an issue for us. It seems odd to worry about invasive species with respect to wake boats, when we have Bass tournaments on our lake on a regular basis where 10-20 boats are trailered in from all over. Certainly these would be more of an issue with their live wells and pumps, and that they move around on a daily basis to different lakes.

In terms of erosion, education is the answer. While "wake boats" certainly make a wake, numerous other boats make similar or larger wakes, partly because a large boat will make a large wake. Our boat is only 20 feet. I have been to the town docks in Wolfeboro and out on Winnepesaukee and even with the ballast, our wake is smaller than most of the bigger boats over there. It does not make sense to put restrictions on "wake boats" if we allow larger cigarette boats, cabin cruisers, and all sorts of large boats that make large wakes. Education in the answer.

Again, we are deeply committed to our lake. We swam more that 30 miles in total this summer as a family around our lake and EVERY island on our lake picking up trash - primarily aluminum cans.

Thank you for your time.

The Weidners
Bedford, NH







Skickat från min iPad Air 2

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: Marie Hatton
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 2:05:56 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB229
Importance: Normal

January 29, 2021

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

We have owned property in Moultonborough on Lake Winnepesaukee since 1982. Our children were raised here and now our grandchildren. We have enjoyed all that our magnificent Lake Winni. offers..... fishing, boating, kayaking, tubing, sailing, water skiing and just enjoying its beauty in all four seasons. I support the Lakes Region Conservation Trust and Geneva Point Center.

This past COVID summer has given us an even more appreciation of living on the lake. Our children, grandchildren and friends were able to visit, and enjoy being outside with nature. Boating is a very important part of our family togetherness here.....something all ages can do together. I and my children all have their boating licenses, as well. We have a deep respect for the lake and boating safety.

My property sits on the lake with almost 200 feet of frontage. We have many wake boats enjoying our cove and have never encountered any problems with erosion or dangers to swimmers, paddlers and/or wildlife.

Instead of taking another thing away from us, please consider offering more education and enforcement of current laws, instead of singling out certain watercraft for definition and restrictions. Most often, it is the boater and not the boat that is the issue.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter of importance to New Hampshire.

Best regards,

Marie E. Hatton
Moultonborough

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: Diana Frucci
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 1:18:21 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229 Wake Boat Definition bill
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

Hello! My family has spent our summers at Lake Winnepesaukee for the last 25 years. My husband and I have owned a "tow boat" together since we were in college. We are members of the Abenaki Water Ski Club in Wolfeboro, NH, my son works for Lake Host and I volunteer for water testing through UNH and the Lake Winnepesaukee Association. We are invested in the lake and area.

My husband Jay and I actually met on a Water Ski Team in college and have owned a tow boat before we even owned 2 cars. Lucky for us our 3 boys took to the sport and we have enjoyed countless hours of family time practicing and competing in our sport. Boating has always been a huge part of our lives. We ski twice a day weather permitting and we all have our NH boating licenses. My husband, myself and middle son are all official AWSA (American Water Ski Association) competition boat drivers that requires testing and many practice hours with mentors to achieve. This rating allows us to drive for slalom, jump and trick events for official USA waterski events. We have hosted numerous tournaments and taught so many kids to ski. A lifetime sport and family activity that has brought so much joy to my family. My middle son actually just received a D1 scholarship to attend college at FSC in Florida next year for Water Skiing!

Although we love our water ski sport we really love just being on the water, watching the sun set and the pure joy of pulling kid behind the boat for the first time.

Milfoil has been a continuing nuisance for many years now. We volunteer our time to water testing and preventing the spread of this invasive species. We have witnessed many private ski lakes overtaken with this weed and turned into a swamp if the lake is not being used or left untreated. Our ski community is aware of this problem and is proactive in inhibiting the spread. We want our water ways safe and clean. My experience with environmental abuse and erosion has been related to the boat operator, not the boat. We are all trained boat drivers, safety for the skier and the lake itself are our primary focuses.

Thank you for reading this letter and considering opposing HB229. With the proper education of boat drivers through such programs as the NH boater licenser and AWSA, USA Waterski we can operate our power boats in a safe fashion for the participants, environment and animals.

Best,

Diana and Jay Frucci
Wolfeboro, NH
Hanover, MA

Diana L. Frucci ASID
Owner/Interior Designer
diana@furnitureconsignment.com

FURNITURE CONSIGNMENT *Gallery*

Archived: Thursday, April 22, 2021 11:34:22 AM
From: DiNovi, Anthony
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 7:03:49 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my concern about HB 229, pending legislation which seeks to define — with the possibility of restricting or banning — the use of surf or wake boats on NH waterways.

I have been a property owner and taxpayer on Lake Winnepesaukee in Moultonborough for 20 years. We love the lakes region, and believe wholeheartedly in protecting the lakes. However, restricting the use of surf or wake boats is not the answer.

I have owned a wake boat for 5 years. Surfing behind this boat is a tremendous source of healthy enjoyment for my family and guests, especially during this pandemic. Most importantly, because of the low boat speed during the activity, wake surfing has dramatically improved the safety of our water sports, and we have experienced a significant decline in injuries. Wake surfing is also a more accessible activity (relative to water skiing and wakeboarding) for people over 50 years of age, like my wife and me, because of the low speed/low impact nature of the sport.

We would be supportive of further education around noise/music levels, and proximity to shore lines and other boats. We believe there are many well educated and respectful boaters in our area and we would be disappointed to see them impacted negatively by the actions of a few boat operators. New Hampshire has a reputation for being welcoming to family boating and fun. We love the state's motto "Live Free or Die." We are concerned that this legislation, while well-intended, would negatively impact New Hampshire's reputation and thus could impact property values as well.

I respectfully ask you to oppose this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tony & Deanna DiNovi
Moultonborough, NH

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Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

When Rep. John MacDonald first showed us HB229, we had some reservations about becoming co-sponsors. We were struck with fears of burdensome regulations that could hurt our communities' tourism and boating industries. However, Rep. MacDonald showed us a recently commissioned study that was conducted by state officials, lawmakers, environmentalists and representatives from boating and recreation groups. Here is the [Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats](#).

If you go to page 19, you can see the rationale behind this legislation. Defining wake boats will help our legislature, law enforcement, the boating industry, and environmentalists come to a compromise that is acceptable to everyone. This bill currently does not affect anyone in any demonstrable way.

This study explains:

“Successful examples of this approach are found in RSA 270:73 through RSA 270:74-a.”

“These statutes currently allow the Department of Safety to prohibit the operation of ski craft on certain bodies of water, within 300 feet of shore, and within 300 feet of shore in certain coves less than 1,000 feet in width. These laws were enacted when conflict arose between shore front property owners and ski craft operators. The resulting regulations along with manufacturing changes have all but eliminated the need for these statutes as conflicts are rarely reported.”

“Similar restrictions, as determined by the Legislature, for wake/ballast boats would result in a compromise between those who are concerned about the effects of wake boats and the water sports enthusiasts. It would also allow for industry recommendations to become law (no towing within 200 feet of shore) that otherwise would be ignored for lack of consequences. This process would also require the petitioners to meet established criteria before any public hearings are entertained, thus eliminating nuisance attempts at unnecessary regulations.”

Unless the legislature defines the thing it is regulating, then it cannot enforce those laws that regulate the said thing. There are specific safety concerns and environmental hazards that wake boats create. You can find a pamphlet with a brief explanation of those concerns [here](#). These issues need to be addressed. The way to address these concerns is with minimal regulations, like the state has done in the past with ski boats or other watercraft. Currently, the wake boat education initiative that was described by marina owners and boating industry lobbyists is not sufficient. In no measurable way has it decreased any of the identified safety or environmental hazards.

It is also worth mentioning that the ability to use wake boats will not be affected by HB229. HB229 does not establish any regulations and it is not an attempt to ban wake boats. Wake boats are an important part of our local economies, but so are our lakes, rivers, and the health of our environment.

To reiterate, the purpose of this bill is not to ban wake boats or to hurt any specific industries. We have a system that prevents attempts at unnecessary regulations. The purpose is to help protect our environment, our tourism industry, and yes, the boating industry. The lakes are our communities' (Wolfeboro, Tuftonboro, Moultonborough, and Sandwich) most important economic resource. If it is not shared equally and preserved, it would hurt our local economy. Our boating industry is part of this and must be strongly considered and supported. This bill will get the ball rolling on common sense legislation that will be acceptable to everyone. We encourage you to support HB229 so we can continue this important discussion. Thank you.

Best,

Rep. Brodie Deshaies

Carroll 6, Wolfeboro

Rep. Karel Crawford

Carroll 4, Moultonborough

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:35:40 PM
From: Steven Armstrong
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:24:10 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 Oppose
Importance: Normal

Regarding HB229.

I have been an active enthusiast of NH lakes for over 50yrs. During this time there have been many defined periods for businesses and tourist who have enjoyed these resources and made them part of their own. There was the sailing phase in the 70s; cruisers in the 80s; fast boats of the 90s and 2000s; and pontoon boats of the 2010s. To complement the current period there is the introduction of surf boats. Yet another way in the endless phases of how people enjoy NH lakes. What is next?

My family members are proud owners of a sailboat, an antique cruiser, a pontoon boat and a surf boat. We enjoy them all, as do visitors who come to see what the Lake is all about. All of these activities bring family and friends together. What better setting than NH lakes to host these memories?

I kindly express my opposition to HB229.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steve

Steven Armstrong
603-327-7518

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:38 PM
From: Dennis S.
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:20:57 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 Please oppose
Importance: Normal

Greetings,

Thank you for taking the time to read this note. I respectfully ask your support.

My name is Dennis Stasio Jr. My family and I live in Danville NH on Little Cub Pond and also have a small camp in Milton NH. We enjoy all water sports activities when the kids are off from school in the summer. Since COVID we have spent a lot more time living out of our camp so the kids can enjoy the outdoors. As part of that we use the public water ways and enjoy boating. We are tow boat owners and enjoy all the available sports respectfully. We are considerate to other people.

I did not grow up around boating but after I attended Maine Maritime Academy, I enjoy all aspects of boating more. I also work to partnership in any way possible to our environment and working in a field to ensure safety and quality for a large company. All that said, I respectfully ask you to oppose HouseBill 229 defining specific types of boats. I believe it is important to educate people on safe boating and not single out any one type of boat or tow boat.

Again thank you for your support considering opposition to single out a certain type of watercraft HB229 in NH. I hope that you believe that public safety and boater awareness is more important then singling out what type of boat people can own.

Thank you,

Dennis Stasio

"Live Free or Die"

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:38:48 PM
From: John MacDonald
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:43:53 PM
To: Andrew Renzullo; Heather Goley; Bradley Greenland; Michael Gunski
Subject: HB229 testimony from Rep. J. MacDonald
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
Testimony HB 229 Rep.J MacDonald.pdf ;

Good evening Mr. Chairman,

I am unable to send a copy of my testimony from the "email all committee members" on the state website.

I have attached a copy of my testimony and also copied, the Vice Chair, Heather Goley and Bradley Greenland.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

Respectfully,

John T. MacDonald
Representative
Carroll District 6

Sent from my iPhone

This message may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you are not the addressee or authorized to receive this for the addressee, you must not copy, disclose, or take any action based on this message or any information herein. If you have received this message in error, please advise the sender immediately by reply email and delete this message. Thank you for your cooperation.

Testimony: Representative John T. MacDonald
Carroll District 6
HB 229
February 2, 2021

Good Morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Resource, Recreation, and Development Committee. It is an honor and pleasure to appear before you today. My name is Representative John T. MacDonald, I am from Carroll District 6, which consists of the community of Wolfeboro.

I am here to introduce to the Committee House Bill 229 which provides the reasonable definition of a "Wake Boat."

"Wake boat" means any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments, containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed to alter or enhance the characteristics of the boat's wake, and is also known as a "ballast boat."

The wording of this Legislation is consistent with the proposed definition by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. This organization (NASBLA) represents the recreational boating authorities of all 50 states and the U.S. territories.

The Wake Boat when operated without its intended purpose is just like any other boat's operation. However, when operators fill the ballast tanks or compartments, the boat creates a much larger wake than normal.

This Bill comes at the request of many constituents, shore front property owners, fisherman, kayakers, canoeists, moored boat owners, dock owners, lake associations, and many other users of our state's lakes and ponds. Some of the shared ideals are to protect the healthy balance in our lakes and ponds, to promote boating safety, to prevent damage to personal property and the erosion of shorelines.

This Bill is not designed or intended to be anti-boating, anti-family, anti-business, anti-watersport, anti-tourist, or any other anti-New Hampshire values. It is a commonsense Bill that will define a type of boat that has been operating on our state's lakes, ponds and rivers for the past several years.

Education is an important component in the pursuit of any recreational activity. Establishing a definition of a "wake boat" is the first step in an educationally directed program. This bill would solidify a statewide definition and enhance our abilities to educate and inform the general public. Without a clear and precise definition there could be a great deal of confusion within the boating public, and the residents of our state.

Lastly, there may be testimony that this definition will result in the banning of, or restrictions imposed on "wake boats". Under RSA 270:11 the Commissioner of Safety appears to be granted the authority to create rules. I am unsure without the legal opinion from state authorities if such authority would apply in this case. In any event, it is my understanding, that the creation of any rules requires the Department of Safety to hold public hearings to receive testimony from all of the concerned or interested parties.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning HB 229.

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:23:44 PM
From: Suzanne Smith
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 8:28:49 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 Testimony from Rep. Suzanne Smith
Importance: Normal
Attachments:
HB229 Testimony Rep. Suzanne Smith.docx ;

Copy of testimony attached and written below.

Testimony from Rep. Suzanne Smith February 3, 2021
HB 229 defining "wake boat"

I wrote in support of HB229 which seeks to define what a wake boat often called a ballast boat is. In 2019-2020, I chaired the Commission to Study Wake Boats. It was a very thorough look at these new popular watercraft. The commission heard from experts and produced a final report--28 pages--which can be accessed here.
<http://gencourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1434/reports/Commission%20to%20Study%20Wake%20Boats%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

You will note in reading the report that the Commission included a diverse group of stakeholders including owners of shoreline property on both small and large lakes, representatives of lake associations, Marine Trades, members of the watersports industry, representatives from State agencies including Department of Safety/Marine Patrol and Department of Environmental Services as well as legislators from the House and Senate.

One of the biggest challenges of the Commission was balancing the rights of people to enjoy water skiing, tubing, wakeboarding or wake surfing on the waters of NH held in public trust with the rights of people to experience peaceful enjoyment of paddling, swimming, or sailing on these same waters.

Over the course of the Commission I received phone calls and emails from people who complained about boat wakes being a hazard for their enjoyment of the waters, but I was never quite sure if they all realized the difference between a wake boat with up to 2,000 pounds of ballast and a more typical motorboat as defined already in statute.

Defining what a wake boat seems like a reasonable solution, however it was not one that the Commission members could all agree with. Defining wake boats will explain just what these boats are and do. Presently, I have heard them called tow boats (although wakesurfers don't use a tow rope to enjoy their sport), ballast boats (because they take on ballast to create larger wakes) or should it be referred to as a wake boat? Members of the committee vacillated between these 3 names for the boat.

The committee is receiving a lot of emails from people who believe that this bill will effectively ban wake boats. I believe there are areas in some lakes which should be restricted--usually because the water is too shallow and the downward thrust of their engines stirs up the bottom. Another instance could be a narrow cove. BUT HB229 is not going to restrict any boater.

One of the outcomes of the Commission was expanding boater education as you can see in the Commission's report. Presently, the Department of Safety provides a boater safety course which is easily accessible online and in person when possible. They produce a Boater's Guide of NH. These options are readily available and yet I see countless violations of "no wake" zones and our "safe passage" law every time I am out on the water. So despite my wish that "education works" I have my doubts.

Rep. Suzanne Smith
Grafton District 8, Plymouth, Hebron, Holderness
20 Brookside Lane
Hebron, NH 03241
603-715-0086

Resources, Recreation & Development Committee
Scenic & Cultural Byways Council
Exotic Aquatic Weeds & Species Committee
Commission to Study the Current Statutes Related to Management of Non-tidal Public
Waterways and the Construction or Placement of Structures Within Them
State Parks Advisory Council

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00:32 PM
From: Michael Wolf
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:45:45 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 Wake Boat Info
Importance: Normal

Please confirm receipt of this email, thank you.

I OPPOSE HB229

I would like to point out that there need not be a separate classification of a Wake Boat, vs all the other boats in the same group.

I do believe in some other things related to ski/wakeboard/wakesurf and high speed pontoon boats (200hp engines) and such...

But for today...

The best example I can think of, and hope this helps clarify there is no need to classify this "type of boat" as unique.

We have spent over 20 years in a ski boat (and the family over 50 years with varying watercraft). In that boat we cruised, we tubed, we water skied, we wakeboarded, we surf'd (yes with a surfboard), we hydrofoil'd and as you can see, we did just about anything... and everything. We love water activities... We did all that in one boat, we would add ballasts and suction cup on wings to adjust the boat, all aftermarket stuff readily available without buying a new boat... All good and a lot of fun...

Wake surfing how and why... As my wife and I get older we learned how to wake surf, lower speeds, and easier to do, and no more 30mph crashes like skiing or crazy 25mph tubing whips and yet still quite a workout... so we loved it, we taught others and everyone loves to wakesurf with the Wolf's, max speed is 12mph (we did all this on a 20 year old ski boat)... Less injuries then skiing/tubing and a lot more involvement and success will happen in just a couple pulls... Wow we found us a later in life enjoyable sport (for over 50/60 and even 70-year old's) and yes kids under 10 can do it too! Not to mention the folks on the boat enjoy the slower, smooth ride as well...

2 seasons ago we bought a new boat it was time... we bought a boat with built in ballasts, why? it was practical, vs the other external add-ons that we have done for so long...

We use the new boat for all, yes, all the same things (we do a bit less skiing now and enjoy the new sport with less pain, easier to fall and easier to teach old dogs new tricks)... we wake surf maybe 10-15% of the time when using the boat... simple story.

Why not to reclassify? Well, I'm telling you what an avid, water loving person does with one and we had to educate ourselves and be respectful as always (that has never changed) as to the best place to do it and other how to's...

What's this like?

It's like saying an SUV (the car/truck hybrid) has varying classes... does the 2 rows of seats SUV qualify for back roads, but a 3rd row of seats mean it can't go on back roads because maybe it's too big or may have too much weight? no of course not, can one SUV tow a little and another a lot more, yup? Still an SUV, yes... Heck even some SUV's are built on car frames and others truck frames... do we call it something else? Nope we call it an SUV. Let's see all different engines 4/6/8 cylinder options, different seating, different weights, different towing, different frames, heck every major component in an SUV can be interchanged when buying one and it's still an SUV.

So, let's keep the current class of boat a boat, as an SUV will stay an SUV and educate folks at to their new vehicle and how to of using that vehicle responsibly.

I OPPOSE HB229 classification, no need for this in any way.

We need proper enforcement and education of existing boating safety rules/laws/guidelines, that has been true not matter what vehicle is on the water.

Have you seen the new battery powered hydrofoils, stand on and hit the button and go? Like a Segway Scooter in the water... now that is in a class by itself!

Wife's family house in Wakefield on Balch Pond, since the 60's
Our family on Conway Lake and visiting friends on other NH lakes for decades...

We have experienced different lakes in size/configuration so we have small and larger lake knowledge.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Michael G. Wolf



February 3, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chair
House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 229, "defining wake boats"

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on HB 229. NH LAKES strongly supports HB 229, relative to the definition of wake boats.

As a statewide non-profit organization dedicated to keeping New Hampshire's lakes clean and healthy, NH LAKES advocates for laws and other public policies and programs designed to achieve this mission. NH LAKES seeks to promote clean water policies and responsible use practices, related to the increasing popularity of wake (ballast) boats.

Wake (ballast) boats are designed to create artificially-enhanced wakes for activities like wake surfing and wake boarding. When these boats create much larger wakes than other boats on our smaller lakes, or operate in proximity to the shoreline, or in shallow water, they have a direct impact on the health of our lakes. These impacts include excessive shoreline erosion, the disturbance of lake bottom sediments (and the potential release of nutrients causing toxic cyanobacteria blooms that are harmful to wildlife and swimmers), and the disturbance of critical fish and bird nesting habitat. Additionally, the ballast water compartments on these boats are not designed to fully drain, so they hold some water as the boats are moved from lake to lake, potentially transporting and spreading aquatic invasive species from lake to lake.

NH LAKES is not trying to ban wake (ballast) boats or the activities of wake boarding or wake surfing, now or in the future. NH LAKES is preparing to introduce, in the future, operating rules for these boats based in peer-reviewed science designed to reduce the impact of enhanced waves. We don't yet know whether specific shoreline setbacks should be applied to these watercraft (greater than the current 150' safe passage distance), nor the minimum depths at which these watercraft should be operated. But, we do know there are small and shallow lakes, and parts of many lakes, on which these watercraft are having a particularly destructive impact. HB 229 simply establishes a definition of these watercraft for future management efforts.

The definition of wake boats as proposed in HB 229 is intended to stand the test of time. It is consistent with the definition being adopted by the National Association of Boating Law Administrators, in that organization's effort to help address the impacts wake (ballast) boats are having on lakes and rivers throughout the country. This is not just a New Hampshire problem. Wake (ballast) boats are popular and their use widespread. But, their impacts, as described above, are real and need to be addressed. Defining these watercraft in statute is the first step to effectively managing them.

NH LAKES is not anti-wake (ballast) boat. The members of NH LAKES are almost all boat owners, including many who own and enjoy wake (ballast) boats. However, we do believe any on-water activity that negatively impacts the health of our lakes, as well as negatively impacts other boaters, swimmers, shoreline structures, moored boats, etc., needs to be better managed than it is now. We believe management efforts begin with defining wake (ballast) boats in statute and we believe this approach is measured and reasonable. It is based on our values that everyone should be able to recreate on our lakes in a manner that will not compromise the health of our lakes or the safety of others.

The boating industry would have you believe that the waves created by wake (ballast) boats are no different than the wakes created by any other boat, while simultaneously advertising "huge wakes" and the ability to "crank up wakes" to wake (ballast) boat prospective buyers. NH LAKES recognizes and values the important role the recreational boating industry has in the New Hampshire economy. However, while wake (ballast) boats are being operated in a way to create enhanced wakes, other essential activities like paddling, sailing, and swimming often become unsafe and impossible. We believe it is essential to find ways to share the lake, so that everyone can enjoy these public resources.

We urge you and the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee to vote "ought to pass" on HB 229 to help protect New Hampshire's lakes from erosion, lake bottom disturbance, aquatic invasive species and preserve recreational opportunities for all lake users.

Respectfully,



Michelle Davis
Advocacy Program Coordinator
NH LAKES
mdavis@nhlakes.org

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:36:20 PM
From: Cindy Herweck
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 11:06:58 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

I am a retired resident of New Hampshire and have lived and played in our beautiful state since the early 1960's. Our family are proud supporters of The Trust For Public Land. Additionally, our family created and operates The 520 Foundation here in our state.

Our first visits and home in the lakes region as children were on Squam Lake. After a few decades there, we moved to Meredith on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Being a tow boat owner has given us the ability to share so much time on the water from rides on a beautiful afternoon, the amazing experience of teaching our children and grandchildren to ski and surf, and watching their faces light up with that feeling of accomplishment - irreplaceable family memories. Now, here in my 60s, I'm able to still enjoy time on the water and that feeling of accomplishment with the low impact sport of surfing, and hopes of this continuing for many healthy years to come.

Your energy, efforts, & dedication to our beautiful lakes of New Hampshire is greatly appreciated. Please oppose House Bill 229.

Regards,
Cynthia Herweck

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:24:30 PM
From: Travis Williams
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 9:19:26 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I wanted to drop a message sharing my strong opposition to HB229. We have seen a great deal of growth in the past couple seasons resulting in many new hires and Marina spending. The impact to our employees and the local economy could be devastating.

--

Travis Williams
Sales Manager
O. 603-279-7921
C. 603-455-0268
www.meredithmarina.com



Meredith Marina

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:30:26 PM
From: Kathy Mennella
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:48:01 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Good Evening,

I oppose House Bill 229 and ask our representatives to also oppose HB 229. I live on a lake and host an adaptive water ski program during the summer for adults, children, veterans and their families. Also our family is big into waterskiing and our children grew up having good clean fun. I now am expecting my second grandchild this summer and feel by not opposing HB229 both of these will be in jeopardy. Please oppose HB 229

Thank You

Kathleen Mennella

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:44:03 PM
From: Karen Clark
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:08:58 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon,

I oppose HB 229 and ask my representatives to oppose HB 229. I volunteer for an adaptive water-skiing program with Northeast Passage. The program offers water-skiing to disabled veterans, adults, children and family members. This has been an incredibly popular activity for the disabled community and I'm concerned that HB 229 will restrict their ability to provide these programs on NH water-ways.

Thank you,
Karen Clark

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:10 PM
From: Ashley Samuelian
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:49:03 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am an owner of a bakery in Wolfeboro, NH. Much of our business comes from tourist that travel to our town in the summer months. I'd like to oppose HB229. My concern is that if boats start being banned from Lake Winnepesaukee, the tourist industry will suffer greatly, badly effecting all small businesses around the lake. Please considering opposing this bill.

Sincerely,
Ashley Samuelian

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:14 PM
From: Tara Morley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:05:25 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I am writing to express my opposition to restricting and potentially limiting the use of wake boats on NH lakes. I am the owner of a wake boat, we use it responsibly and I think to pass such a bill particularly in the middle of the winter would be wrong. While I understand the concern with the shoreline I think jet skis and power boats in general when not operated properly pose just as great a risk. I am a home owner in Holderness NH as well as Sugar Hill Nh. I am opposed to passing HB229.

Thank you.

Tara Morley
36 Kaplan Rd
Holderness NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00:32 PM
From: Dylan Kruger
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:52:42 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

I am a member and family of Goodhue Boat Company and I opposed the bill HB229. From my knowledge all that has been done to try and ban wake boats is define them. You are not highlighting the benefits of these amazing family boats and why families love them so much. We do not live on the Ocean we do not have the luxury of going out and catching a wave. These boats make it possible for families. These boats are safe, the technology makes them simple and easy to use and theyre amazing boats for family. I have seen so much fun and laughs and memories made on these boats and every has stayed safe. Im not sure why there would ever be a ban on these boats hurting families who have worked very hard to purchase them. It would hurt these families and the marinas who sell them. I oppose.

Dylan Kruger
Sales Professional
Office: 603-279-4573
Cell: 603-451-3892

GOODHUE BOAT COMPANY

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:37 PM
From: sp_donahue
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:43:52 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Hello,
I am a NH resident and I would like to ask you to oppose HB229.

Sincerely,

Sean Donahue
6 Stonehedge Rd
Windham, NH
603-458-2213

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:37 PM
From: Davis, Terry
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:40:30 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Good morning!

Our family has lived on and enjoyed Lake Sunapee and family boating since the late 80's. We love the lake and all its beauty. We have lived on the lake in Newbury harbor since 1995. We've seen a lot as we sit on our dock in Newbury in the summer over the years. However, the thing that has been constant is enjoyment of friends and families while boating on the lake. We are into our 3 rd generation of learning to wakeboard/wakesurf and teaching our grandchildren to respect the lake and polite boating etiquette. Wakeboard/wakesurf boating is a major part of our life here. It allows families to enjoy learning a sport, trying something new, spending precious time together, watch a sunset, picnic on the boat, etc.

We are in total opposition of HB229!

We are open to understanding the content and opinions of the alternative viewpoint.

Thank you for your time and service!

Theresa Davis
22 Stoodley Drive
Newbury, NH.
5084795100

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:03:16 PM
From: Melissa Szymansky
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:59:46 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Good Afternoon,

I am writing to let you know that we oppose HB229. We have been summer residents since 1982 in the town of Moultonboro. We have grown up on the lake and learned how to wakeboard, waterski, tube and various other family activities. We are now in our second generation at the lake and have children that are now enjoying all of the activities that come with spending summers on the lake. We live in a very active bay with lots of families and lots of boating activity. We have not noticed any changes with wake crashing upon our shores due to wake boats....these boats are great family boats and as I am sure most people that spend time on the lake can attest...boating is where so many memories are made. I am discouraged by this group continuing to push through unnecessary legislation and would strongly urge you to vote against this bill. We live in a time where there is way too much regulating and this will just add to big brother constantly looking over our shoulders.

Thank you for your time,
Ken and Melissa Szymansky

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:04:32 PM
From: maraymond@metrocast.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:41:46 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

To the honorable members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

We reside on lake Winnisquam in Sanbornton. We have owned our property for 35 years. We are retired but our son owns a tow boat (wake boat) and we spend a lot of time on his boat with his and other family members and friends. I have owned tow boats in prior years and also spent a lot of time on our boats with family and friends. Using a tow boat allows people of all ages to enjoy water recreation such as wake surfing, skiing, tubing, leisurely cruising etc.

We have not noted any significant soil erosion or invasive species on our lakefront.

Responsible boaters do not create problems with their boats, irresponsible boaters create problems.

Thank you for considering opposition to HB229. We should not single out certain watercraft for restrictions. Everyone should be able to share waterways if it is done responsibly.

Sincerely,

Maurice and Jacqueline Raymond
Sanbornton

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:15:44 PM
From: Lisa E
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:21:27 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229, a bill to define 'wake boats'
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for HB229, a bill to define "wake boats". These are an entirely different type of boat than others that frequent our lakes, and they need to be regulated. I am not opposed to their use, but the fact that they have ballast tanks poses a potential threat to our lake of spreading aquatic invasive species, and their large wakes can damage the shoreline. I live on Lake Winnisquam in Meredith and have witnessed the damage myself.

I urge your support on this bill.

Thank you,

Lisa Eggleston

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:26:57 PM
From: Jackie McCormack
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:22:46 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you to give my support for HB 229. I have been coming to Bow Lake since I was a child. I learned to water ski here, took my first canoe trip, kayaked, fished endless hours and now I have the pleasure of teaching my own children those same outdoor adventures.

There are many safety concerns when introducing children to water sports and over the last few years those concerns have magnified ten fold with the growing use of wave producing boats. Leisure activities on this lake have become treacherous. These boats don't produce the typical wake the average boat/skier produces. Imagine a wave pool turned up to the highest setting at any given second. The waves travel a great distance and only dissipate when crashing into land with the force no other wake produces. The erosion that has taken place because of these waves is alarming.

Please consider placing these boats where they belong, in the ocean, on open water and save our small lakes.

Thank you for your time,
Jackie McCormack
757-589-8189

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:26:57 PM
From: Jackie McCormack
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:22:46 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing you to give my support for HB 229. I have been coming to Bow Lake since I was a child. I learned to water ski here, took my first canoe trip, kayaked, fished endless hours and now I have the pleasure of teaching my own children those same outdoor adventures.

There are many safety concerns when introducing children to water sports and over the last few years those concerns have magnified ten fold with the growing use of wave producing boats. Leisure activities on this lake have become treacherous. These boats don't produce the typical wake the average boat/skier produces. Imagine a wave pool turned up to the highest setting at any given second. The waves travel a great distance and only dissipate when crashing into land with the force no other wake produces. The erosion that has taken place because of these waves is alarming.

Please consider placing these boats where they belong, in the ocean, on open water and save our small lakes.

Thank you for your time,
Jackie McCormack
757-589-8189

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:48:23 PM
From: dawn dragon
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:45:42 PM
To: House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229 opposed to wakeboarding
Importance: Normal

I would like to say I am OPPOSED to wakeboarding on the lake, particularly Lake Winnisquam.

Everyday we have wakeboarders and my dock gets destroyed. Also, the waves come in so strongly it has caused water damage by flooding the rear end of our boat which now needs the intensity of the waves. The lake is narrow, especially on the northern side of the lake where we live. There is a loon preservation just north of here and loons are often swimming.

We would like to keep our names anonymous so as to not cause ill feelings with neighbors.

Let me know if this is the best way to take action.

Thank you,

Dawn & Matt Dragon
192 Leighton Ave N
Laconia, NH 03246

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:53:31 PM
From: Christian Pena
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:14:24 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to House Bill 229. In my opinion there is no such thing as a "wake boat." While some choose to use their boats to create wakes for various activities, narrowly defining a wake boat would be too subjective and lead to unfair regulations.

Live free or die

Christian

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:54 PM
From: Choe, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:39:17 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee,

First of all, thank you very much for your invaluable service to the great state of NH!

I am writing in the hopes that you will consider opposing HB 229 tomorrow given what I believe will be a detrimental effect on NH's burgeoning recreational economy.

Since purchasing my place in Wolfeboro 8 years ago, I have personally "recruited" more than 5 Massachusetts families who were thinking about purchasing Cape homes to the lakes region. These families are, through substantial home renovations and their general activity in the area, a microcosm of the massive economic benefit that the lakes region recreation provides to the state's economy. Every one of these families would cite the ability to boat on the lake as a key deciding factor in choosing the NH lakes region over the Cape or the islands. I believe that this is a powerful long term trend that can continue and seriously benefit the state over the long run.

Of course, as boaters, we must recognize the impact we have on the environment and on our neighbors and pursue our recreation responsibly. Based on my experience on our beloved Lake Winnepesaukee, I'm confident that the lake can be managed to provide for safe but fun boating, even with ballast boats, without the need for further legislative restrictions. I do know that the prospect of future restrictions on this activity will seriously dampen economic contributions to the state from its incredible natural resources.

Thank you for considering my note. I am available should any members wish to discuss this matter.

Best regards,
Mike Choe

617.335.9920

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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:37 PM
From: William Swaffield
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:42:21 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Jeb Bradley
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

I am president of the Abenaki Water Ski Club in Wolfeboro. We are the largest organized water ski club in New Hampshire with over 50 active members split between New Hampshire residents and out of staters. The AWSC has been sponsoring three to four water ski tournaments in Wolfeboro's Back Bay since 1981. The events include slalom, jumping and trick skiing. These events are sanctioned by USA Water Ski & Wake Sports, the national governing body of organized water skiing and wakeboarding in the United States. New Hampshire can be proud of its long water skiing history and of developing world and national record holders and national water ski champions since the 1950's. Laconia's Lake Opechee was the site of the U. S. National Water Ski Championships in 1954 and 1959.

As a lifelong boater on Lake Winnepesaukee I have seen boating and boats evolve over many years. I've seen fads come and go. I believe HB 229 as written is a short-sighted approach to regulating boat wakes on our lakes because it is the boaters not the boats who are responsible for their wakes. The fact is there are MANY makes of boats that are capable of producing large wakes, with or without ballast capability, especially when run at slow to medium speeds. These include models of Sea Rays, Cobalts, deck boats, bowriders, cabin cruisers and many vintage inboards. In short, any boat with a V shape hull can throw up major wakes and waves. As a competitive water skier, I have been trying to avoid these boats to find skier-friendly water for years, but never considered legislation as a means to do it. Unfortunately HB 229 seems to be a first step in doing just that.

I have great respect for our ponds and lakes, am a supporter of the Loon Preservation Committee and I understand why the NH Lakes Association is concerned with increased boating on our lakes and its impact on the environment. I, too share their concerns but the answer is in enforcement of current laws and boater education.

I urge you to vote "no" on HB 229.

Sincerely,
Bill Swaffield
President, Abenaki Water Ski Club
Wolfeboro, New Hampshire
603-393-7307

Sent from my iPad0

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:05:04 PM
From: Brian Fisher
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:34:42 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

I am an avid boat enthusiast living in Deerfield NH. As a resident of pleasant lake for the last 13 years I have witnessed no degradation of our shoreline related to the use of recreational boaters.

I am opposed to HB229 as it will restrict the freedom waterfront property owners currently enjoy. We also pay a premium for this via our tax rates.

Restricting boat use does not fit within our live free or die state, I do support legislation aimed at educating safe and proper use of all boats.

Thank you for your consideration.
Brian Fisher
5 Lake View Lane
Deerfield, NH 03937

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:05:04 PM
From: Anne Davis
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:32:48 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

I oppose House Bill 229. Our family has a home on Lake Winnepesaukee and we spend many hours on our wake boat. Using the boat is important to my children and grandchildren, as we use it to tube, wake surf, and cruise the lake. The boat provides activities in which people of all ages can participate and we enjoy many hours of cross generational bonding engaged in these activities.

All of my children and grandchildren (who are of age) have boating licenses. We are mindful of the proper ways to use the boat responsibly and we follow those procedures. We believe that driver training and behavior is the important issue and that specific types of boats should not be singled out as disruptive or dangerous. It is the driver, not the boat, that is at fault in these situations.

Thank you for considering my opposition to HB 229.

Anne Davis
Wolfeboro, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:51:00 PM
From: Dale Lattanzio
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:46:02 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Fwd: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dale Lattanzio <dukelattanzio@gmail.com>
Date: February 2, 2021 at 1:44:00 PM EST
To: Dale Lattanzio <dlattanzio@comcast.net>
Subject: Fwd: House Bill 229

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dale Lattanzio <dukelattanzio@gmail.com>
Date: February 2, 2021 at 11:09:33 AM EST
To: mdavis@nhlakes.org
Subject: House Bill 229

Hi Michelle,
My name is Dale Lattanzio and I live on Cobbetts Pond close to Barbara Dooley. I too am greatly concerned over the damage being caused by Wake Boats especially on small narrow lakes like Cobbetts. The damage to the shore line and sea walls is very apparent but the churning of the water and the disruption to the lake weeds and grasses really concerns me.

I am a bass fisherman and spend many hour on the lake. Early mornings you can literally see the results floating on the surface especially after a weekend when these Wake boats have been active. In the last 3 years it is amazing to see see the difference in the water quality with clumps of lake grass and weeds floating on the surface. Never saw that before. I believe the Cobbetts is just too small and narrow to accommodate wake boats. Every year the number increases.

Shore erosion, sea wall breakdowns, dock destruction and most importantly water quality is being compromised by these boats. We need to draw a line and preserve our lakes.

Respectfully
Dale Lattanzio

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:47:28 PM
From: Forys, Cameron
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:04:39 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon,

I oppose House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to oppose House Bill 229. I work for an adaptive sports program that runs adaptive waterskiing programs for people with disabilities. Our participants include kids to older adults, veterans, civilians, and their family members. I am concerned that House Bill 229 will have an impact on our ability to run future waterski programs.

Thank you for your time,
Cam Forys

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:01:38 PM
From: Jeff Kozlowski
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 10:15:47 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear House Resources Committee,

I am emailing to voice my opposition to HB 229 and ask that you do the same. I believe it is wrong to single out one kind of marine watercraft for regulations different than for other marine watercraft.

Sincerely,
Jeff Kozlowski
60 Lake Ave
Newbury, NH
860-287-2688

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:46:51 PM
From: Spencer Joyner
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:11:32 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Sirs,

I oppose HB 229. All boats make wakes. As a boat's speed increases from displacement to planing, or decreases coming off plane, a significant wake can be made by almost any power boat.

Rather than focusing on so called wake boats or sport boats, I believe education and enforcement of existing boating rules should be the focus. Education of boat operators is needed to make sure they understand the hazardous safety and environmental affects of wakes on other boats, people, shoreline and wildlife.

Respectfully,

Spencer A Joyner, Jr. PhD, Civil Engineering
50 Hermit Cove Road
Moultonborough, NH 03254

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:10 PM
From: Jonathan Ewing
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:45:50 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose HB229 for all the reasons previously stated
Importance: Normal

To Whom it may concern,

I would like to express my opposition to HB229 for all of the reasons previously stated. It is my hope to continue to safely and respectfully continue enjoying the lakes no matter of vessel type.

Thank you for your time and service.

Jonathan Ewing
jon.d.ewing@gmail.com
603-630-5683

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:44 PM
From: Kourtney Harrison
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:11:37 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose house bill 229
Importance: Normal

I am a homeowner in Tufonboro. We would be deeply saddened to no longer be able to use wakeboard boats. Our family has grown very fond of this lake and being able to do water sports behind a wakeboard boat such as surfing provides a safe and fun activity that we have grown to cherish.

We oppose this bill.

Thanks,
Kourtney Harrison

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:14 PM
From: courtney.archibald@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:58:53 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

I am shocked to hear that wake surf boats and wake surfing will potentially be banned from NH! I vehemently disagree with this bill! Wake surfing is 100 times more safe than water skiing and jet skiing in my opinion and is great for all ages. Anyone who is in touch with water sports community would know that. Please vote in opposition to this ridiculous bill!

Courtney Archibald

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:38:04 PM
From: Nate Drouin
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:58:44 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I Oppose house bill 229
Importance: Normal

Nate Drouin
Managing Partner

American Trust Financial
1880 Century Park East, Suite 412, Los Angeles, CA 90067
m +1 603 312 9141
O +1 424-217-5858
www.americantrustfinancial.com
nate@americantrustfinancial.com

California Finance Lender and Broker License: 60DBO-99619
California DRE License: 01933846
NMLS: 1818698



Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:10 PM
From: Ashley Stewart
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:51:15 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose the 229 bill
Importance: Normal

Hello,

I've been aware of the bill NH 229 being presented tomorrow, Feb. 3 to the committee of House, resources, and development.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE this 229 bill.

I cannot begin to express how much these particular boats mean to our family, especially our wake surf boat. And I understand this bill wants to limit how and where we use our boats.

We have traveled the world and have been on the most amazing adventures, but being in New Hampshire on Lake Winnepesaukee, wake surfing as a family are the greatest memories we have. I have 6 children ages 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, and a newborn. We want to continue to have these memories and bonding moments as our children grow up. Please don't take that away from us.

Thank you,
Ashley Stewart

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:31:33 PM
From: Kim Ashworth
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:15:40 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I oppose the house bill 229 to define wake boats
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern.

I am writing you to let you know I oppose the bill 229 with the intend of defining wake boats.

My family and I have had a power boat in NH for over 10 years and it is a boat that can be used to cruise from one part of our lake to another. To go to breakfast lunch or dinner. We also use it for water skiing tubing, wake surfing and wake boarding. We also own waterfront property on Lake Winnepesaukee and have never seen any problems with wake boats causing any erosion issues on our shoreline

It is a truly family friendly boat and I do not want it to be defined as a wake boat which could cause it to be limited on certain lakes in NH just because one of the functions of the boat is wake boarding or wake surfing.

I appreciate you hearing my wishes and taking this into consideration when making your decision regarding bill number 229

Thank you
Kim Ashworth
Resident of Gilford, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:54 PM

From: Mitt Romney

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:49:25 AM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: Bill 229

Importance: Normal

I oppose bill 229 which would prevent wake surfing on lake Winnepesaukee. There is no erosion of my shore due to boat waves. If you want to restrict the loud music blasted from some boats, that would be fine. But limiting recreation on such a wonderful lake would be a huge mistake. My 25 grandchildren would be devastated.

Regards, Ann Romney
27 Greenleaf Drive
Wolfeboro, NH
(Summer resident)

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:35:40 PM
From: Lorry Gates
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:19:08 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: SB229
Importance: Normal

To: The House Resource Recreation and Development Committee

We live in Moultonborough on Lake Winnepesaukee. Our lakefront is taking an absolute beating from the waves created by these boats. We have large boulders that have separated from the lakefront caused by erosion, we have a stair that is losing its support because of the loss of frontage and will have to be fixed. We also have large pine trees that are losing the soil around the roots that support them and are now leaning over the lake. We are also just generally losing soil all along the frontage of our property. The giant waves created by these boats also destroy loon nesting sites, which threatens the loon population.

Please protect one of New Hampshire's most valuable resources and outlaw the use of such vehicles on our lakes and rivers.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Gates

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:35:40 PM
From: Jerome Gates
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:32:14 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: SB229
Importance: Normal

To Whom it May Concern:

As a resident of NH, I would like to express my concern regarding the use of wake ballast boats on our lakes and rivers. These bodies of water are one of the most important resources in our state and we must protect them.

These boats are destroying our shorelines and causing erosion. They can easily bring invasive plants and animals to our waters. They threaten our endangered loon population by destroying nests. And it makes boating for the rest of us unpleasant and dangerous.

Please, BAN WAKE (BALLAST) BOATS and protect our lakes.

Sincerely,
Jerome Gates

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:48:23 PM
From: Boo
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:38:14 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Strong opposition to HB229 - Please vote NO
Importance: Normal

/To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee: /

I am writing to urge you to vote NO on HB229, the bill that seeks to define wake boats as a specific type of watercraft. I am a long-time summer resident of Meredith NH, having owned waterfront property on Lake Waukewan for the past 31 years. My family and friends thrive on a variety of water activities and the time we spend out on our boat is precious to us all. Sharing our love of NH lakes and water sports is our greatest gift to our community of friends and family. I have always respected the rules and guidelines that help protect our waterbodies. I was the original coordinator for the NH VLAP water testing program for over 10 years, and we have raised our younger generations to follow the rules and preserve the health of the lake and surrounding properties.

*The bill before the legislature seeks to define a category of boat based on its potential ability to behave in a certain way. This makes no sense, as there are many types of boats that can create a large wake -- yes, a boat that is equipped with inboard ballast, but also a small runabout that does "donuts", a pontoon boat whipping around one or more tubes, a fishing boat speeding close to shore to get to the next "hot fishing spot", or any outboard, inboard/outboard or outboard vessel that is loaded down with extra weight in order to increase the size of the wake.
*

*In order to alleviate the problems that can be caused by large wakes close to the shore, attention should be focused on educating and training the boating population, not limiting the type of boat that can participate in water activities. **Finding ways to enforce the existing laws (which would greatly reduce the problem of shore erosion) will be much more effective than enacting new laws that will be even more difficult to enforce. The prosperity of NH lakes and surrounding towns depends on the freedom for all types of boaters to safely use the water.
*

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please vote NO on HP229.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Gershun
Meredith, NH
*

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

[https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?
d=avast.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZhc3QuY29tL2FudGl2aXJ1cw==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzIxNzcxMzJhMTJl&t=Q0d3QU01Qm9QU0hKaHM3d1haWndlMnpEaldndXF6WEE5dE9abEdCaXdGRT0](https://us-east-2.protection.sophos.com?d=avast.com&u=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYXZhc3QuY29tL2FudGl2aXJ1cw==&i=NWViOWEzNmVkMDA3MzIxNzcxMzJhMTJl&t=Q0d3QU01Qm9QU0hKaHM3d1haWndlMnpEaldndXF6WEE5dE9abEdCaXdGRT0)

=&h=67fb0f5547fd4d159e05263004966b90

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:46:14 PM
From: Sue West
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:01:40 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To each of you on this committee, if you love our New Hampshire lakes, PLEASE vote for Bill 299.
Thank you, Susanna West, P.O. Box 312, Center Conway, N.H. 03813

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:43 PM
From: Ryan Stewart
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:42:55 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Support for HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for HB 229. As a waterfront owner, I have never seen as many destructive waves until wake boats started proliferating on Lake Winnisquam. These large wakes cause turbidity in the water as they crash into shore.

They would not be an problem if they were consistently operated by responsible and respectful adults, that kept their wake surfing to the larger parts of the lake and away from shore. However, often they are operated by young adults/kids, with music so loud the entire shorefront can hear it, along with their destructive wakes.

For this reason I support HB 229

Ryan Stewart
Stewart Property Management, Inc.
www.stewartproperty.net

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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:57:14 PM
From: dgblundell@windwhip.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:58:28 AM
To: Michelle at NH LAKES: rjlynn4@gmail.com; Charles McMahon; Julius Soti; Regina Birdsell; ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Bill Musch: marsden3@comcast.net; Romolo Pallini: sjfetz@gmail.com
Subject: Support House Bill 229 - Wake boat legislative hearing
Importance: Normal

Michelle and my Legislators,

I have lived on Cobbetts Pond Windham NH for over four years. My wife and I are retired and are frequent kayakers on the lake. We also enjoy sitting on the dock at sunset watching the boat traffic. Each summer I have seen an increase in the number and size of the wake boats. I respect that everyone living on the lake has the right to use the lake for recreational purposes. The considerate wake boat operators stay near the center of the lake where the waves dissipate by the time they reach the shore. Unfortunately I feel that some of the wake boat operators don't respect my use of the lake. They pass by within 150 feet and create waves that toss my dock making it uncomfortable and unsafe to sit on the dock. Due to the waves generated by these wake boats traversing relatively close to the shore, the shoreline has eroded resulting in several small trees falling into the pond. I have had to reinforce the shoreline in an attempt to prevent further erosion. Also, we have had to limit the time of day that we kayak to prevent, what I feel, are unsafe conditions to enjoy the lake when those inconsiderate wake boat operators are enjoying the lake.

I support House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to support House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. This is a good start and I ask that our legislators introduce regulations regarding the proper use of a wake boat on public lakes and ponds. It is not enough to say that educating operators to be considerate is all that is needed. I feel that the regulations should be changed to restrict the operating of the boats to within 300 feet when operated in wave surfing mode (ballasted). Also, restrict the size of the wake boats on lakes smaller than 1000 acres, similar to the dock length restriction. This is because the larger boats, greater than 21 feet in length, are designed to displace more water that generates larger waves.

David Blundell
25A Cobbetts Pond Rd.
Windham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:44 PM

From: Romolo Pallini

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:31:48 PM

To: dgblundell@windwhip.com

Cc: Michelle at NH LAKES: rjlynn4@gmail.com; Charles McMahon; Julius Soti; Regina Birdsell; ~House Resources Recreation and Development; Bill Musch: marsden3@comcast.net; sjfetz@gmail.com

Subject: Re: Support House Bill 229 - Wake boat legislative hearing

Importance: Normal

Hi,

We fully support David arguments, and we would like to stress the danger the waves generated by the wake boats for our kids playing near the shore line. One of our grandkids was completely submerged by waves and got scared to the point he hasn't entered the water since the occurrence.

Vary sad! To have to be afraid of enjoying the lake.

The lack of "education " of some wake boats operators is as obvious as disarming. Just a matter of time before a serious accident will occur.

We respect the freedom of people to enjoy the lake as they see fit, and we wish to be respected as well.

Some wake boat operators are seriously limiting our freedom and security.

Please help.

Best regards,

Romolo Pallini.

On Feb 2, 2021, at 11:58 AM, dgblundell@windwhip.com wrote:

Michelle and my Legislators,

I have lived on Cobbetts Pond Windham NH for over four years. My wife and I are retired and are frequent kayakers on the lake. We also enjoy sitting on the dock at sunset watching the boat traffic. Each summer I have seen an increase in the number and size of the wake boats. I respect that everyone living on the lake has the right to use the lake for recreational purposes. The considerate wake boat operators stay near the center of the lake where the waves dissipate by the time they reach the shore. Unfortunately I feel that some of the wake boat operators don't respect my use of the lake. They pass by within 150 feet and create waves that toss my dock making it uncomfortable and unsafe to sit on the dock. Due to the waves generated by these wake boats traversing relatively close to the shore, the shoreline has eroded resulting in several small trees falling into the pond. I have had to reinforce the shoreline in an attempt to prevent further erosion. Also, we have had to limit the time of day that we kayak to prevent, what I feel, are unsafe conditions to enjoy the lake when those inconsiderate wake boat operators are enjoying the lake.

I support House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to support House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. This is a good start and I ask that our legislators introduce regulations regarding the proper use of a wake boat on public lakes and ponds. It is not enough to say that educating operators to be considerate is all that is needed. I feel that the regulations

should be changed to restrict the operating of the boats to within 300 feet when operated in wave surfing mode (ballasted). Also, restrict the size of the wake boats on lakes smaller than 1000 acres, similar to the dock length restriction. This is because the larger boats, greater than 21 feet in length, are designed to displace more water that generates larger waves.

David Blundell
25A Cobbetts Pond Rd.
Windham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:53:31 PM
From: Jodi S. Stewart
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:06:27 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Support of HB 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

As a seasonal resident in Laconia, NH on Winnisquam Lake, I support HB229 on wake boat legislation.

Thank you!

-Jodi Stewart
228 Leighton Avenue North, Laconia

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THIS ELECTRONIC MESSAGE:

This message is intended for the use of the person to whom it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential, and protected from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, your use of this message for any purpose is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please delete the message and notify the sender so that we may correct our records.

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and development Committee,

My Name is Shane Carey and I live in Nottingham on Pawtuckaway Lake with my family. We have lived in Nottingham for 18 years and our kids go to the local schools. I am an avid water sports enthusiast and a tow boat owner that enjoys time on the water with family and friends.

I am a licensed boat operator in New Hampshire as well as USA Water Ski certified driver. My family and I use our tow boat with family and friends to tube, ski and wakeboard and just to hang out and swim. I have found that it is the best way to spend quality time with the kids and their friends. I think that this is a great diversion from the craziness of today's world and keeps the screen time down for the kids and gets them outside and engaging in outdoor activities with friends and family. My wife and I have really enjoyed our time on the water with the kids and their friends it has really helped developed great relationships.

I spent the last year as a member of the HB137 commission where we heard a lot of testimony regarding wake boats. It was clear that the complaints we heard were the result of negligent operators usually going to close to shore when participating in watersports. After almost a year of work, we came to the recommendation to support HB 115 – the bill about wake surfing safety. We did not come to a recommendation on defining wake boats because to define the boat is the wrong approach. I feel that the boats are not the problem - it is the education of the users. More emphasis needs to be put on education than trying to define what is a wake boat.

Let me offer a real-world example ... A boater who lives on the lake was upsetting a few homeowners because he was going to close to the shore and going on the same path each time. I spoke with the boat owner and made him aware of the people's concerns with his repeated boat path and the requirement to be 150 feet or greater from shore or other boats. The boater was appreciative as he did not realize that he was causing an issue. I let him know that he needed to be at least 150ft from shore and to change his boat path each pass. The boater has altered the way he is now towing and stays clear of shore as required and does not stay on the same boat path. This was a win/win situation, the homeowners are happier, and the boater is enjoying his time with family on the lake. There is no real education on proper towing of tubers, skiers, wakeboarders, etc. Rather than looking to identify certain boats to ban from our lakes, we need to educate boaters on proper safe towing and distancing to improve everyone's enjoyment. I'm in strong support of the Wake Responsibly campaign that seeks to educate operators on best practices for towing wake sports. I plan to help in the education efforts and have already reached out to the Fish & Game officers in our area about putting up signs and materials at the public launch.

I would like to thank the committee for letting me speak regarding the opposition to HB229. I feel that the State's time would be better served by focusing on boater education and enforcing the current laws that we currently have. Thank you for your time.

Thank you

Shane Carey

Nottingham NH

February 3, 2021

Dear Members of the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

When Rep. John MacDonald first showed us HB229, we had some reservations about becoming co-sponsors. We were struck with fears of burdensome regulations that could hurt our communities' tourism and boating industries. However, Rep. MacDonald showed us a recently commissioned study that was conducted by state officials, lawmakers, environmentalists and representatives from boating and recreation groups. Here is the [Final Report of the Commission to Study Wake Boats](#).

If you go to page 19, you can see the rationale behind this legislation. Defining wake boats will help our legislature, law enforcement, the boating industry, and environmentalists come to a compromise that is acceptable to everyone. This bill currently does not affect anyone in any demonstrable way.

This study explains:

“Successful examples of this approach are found in RSA 270:73 through RSA 270:74-a.”

“These statutes currently allow the Department of Safety to prohibit the operation of ski craft on certain bodies of water, within 300 feet of shore, and within 300 feet of shore in certain coves less than 1,000 feet in width. These laws were enacted when conflict arose between shore front property owners and ski craft operators. The resulting regulations along with manufacturing changes have all but eliminated the need for these statutes as conflicts are rarely reported.”

“Similar restrictions, as determined by the Legislature, for wake/ballast boats would result in a compromise between those who are concerned about the effects of wake boats and the water sports enthusiasts. It would also allow for industry recommendations to become law (no towing within 200 feet of shore) that otherwise would be ignored for lack of consequences. This process would also require the petitioners to meet established criteria before any public hearings are entertained, thus eliminating nuisance attempts at unnecessary regulations.”

Unless the legislature defines the thing it is regulating, then it cannot enforce those laws that regulate the said thing. There are specific safety concerns and environmental hazards that wake boats create. You can find a pamphlet with a brief explanation of those concerns [here](#). These issues need to be addressed. The way to address these concerns is with minimal regulations, like the state has done in the past with ski boats or other watercraft. Currently, the wake boat education initiative that was described by marina owners and boating industry lobbyists is not sufficient. In no measurable way has it decreased any of the identified safety or environmental hazards.

It is also worth mentioning that the ability to use wake boats will not be affected by HB229. HB229 does not establish any regulations and it is not an attempt to ban wake boats. Wake boats are an important part of our local economies, but so are our lakes, rivers, and the health of our environment.

To reiterate, the purpose of this bill is not to ban wake boats or to hurt any specific industries. We have a system that prevents attempts at unnecessary regulations. The purpose is to help protect our environment, our tourism industry, and yes, the boating industry. The lakes are our communities' (Wolfeboro, Tuftonboro, Moultonborough, and Sandwich) most important economic resource. If it is not shared equally and preserved, it would hurt our local economy. Our boating industry is part of this and must be strongly considered and supported. This bill will get the ball rolling on common sense legislation that will be acceptable to everyone. We encourage you to support HB229 so we can continue this important discussion. Thank you.

Best,

Rep. Brodie Deshaies

Carroll 6, Wolfeboro

Rep. Karel Crawford

Carroll 4, Moultonborough

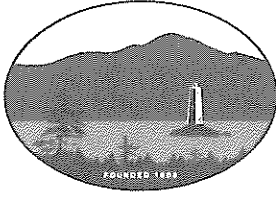
Good morning/afternoon committee members. Thank you for having me here today and listening to my concerns in regards to HB 229. My name is Brie Stephens and I am the proprietor of a real estate company in the Lakes Region of NH. I reside in Moultonborough and dock my Mastercraft boat on Lake Winnepesaukee in Center Harbor Bay. I am an elected member of the town of Moultonborough's Planning Board, a member of the Development Committee for the Lake Winnepesaukee Association as well as a volunteer and member for the Loon Preservation Committee.

I have always been privileged to enjoy all the opportunities that growing up on a lake has to offer. Whether it was in a canoe, driving a jet ski, or being towed behind the family's boat, these wonderful activities are what living in New Hampshire is all about. I am an avid boat captain and weather dependent, I try to enjoy being on the lake almost every day in the summer months. I enjoy our tow boat for personal and work-related purposes whether it be for cruising around the lake, taking clients to showings or teaching friends, family and clients how to wake surf. I host surf & cruise nights with clients and members of the community weekly during the summer months. You can often find my husband or myself teaching new surfers of all ages from 7 to 70 the thrill of surfing, tubing or water-skiing on our beautiful lake.

It has been my observation from spending my life boating that it is not the type of boat that causes problems to the recreational or environmental structure of the lakes but rather a problem from the operators standpoint or natural destructive occurrences. Boaters need sounder education on many issues. I have seen countless boats operating in total disregard to the very laws that are there to protect people as well as the shoreline. Boats of all kinds and types do not follow the rules regarding operating at the required distance to shore or how to drive the boats at a safe distance from others as well as total disregard for speed limits and no wake zones. These are the biggest problems I see. I tend to surf in the pre-sunset hours and mostly on weekdays because of the amount of waves the general lake has with the large influx of boaters on the weekends piloting all kinds of boats. I also see ice being the major culprit to most of the erosion problems year after year with the damage it causes on docks, retaining walls and simply the natural shoreline itself.

In conclusion, I am strongly opposed to HB 229 and strongly urge the committee to be opposed as well. I appreciate your time and consideration and urge the focus to shift from tow boats to a focus on boater education and rule enforcement. We should all EQUALLY be able to enjoy the lake life and the opportunities that they offer as long as we do so responsibly.

Brie Stephens
Moultonborough, NH



LSPA

*Devoted to the Environmental Quality
of the Lake Sunapee Watershed*

February 1, 2021

Resources, Recreation and Development
Re: House Bill 229

Dear Chair Renzullo and Committee Members,

This letter is to support HB 229, an act defining “wake boats”.

- Wake Boats are unique. All boats create wakes, but “wake boats” are specifically designed to create large wakes.
- They do create large wakes and in narrow areas or coves of lakes even with current minimum safe passage distances, wake boats can and have created erosion and discomfort for other lake users.
- Wake boats fill and empty ballast within the same boat ride. The objective to is not carry 3000 lbs. or so while cruising when not wake boating. These discharges can carry invasive species from one end of a lake to another, or from one lake to another lake.
- Currently, there are no safety rules (requiring a spotter, wearing a PFD, being 300ft from shore) as waterskiing requires.

For these reasons, it is reasonable to define wake boats in statute.

Thank you for your consideration,

June Fichter
Executive Director
Lake Sunapee Protective Association
junef@lakesunapee.org
63 Main St, Sunapee, NH 03782

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee

Please oppose HB 229

Hello my name is Michael Whitcher from Strafford NH. My family and I live on Bow Lake where my family has been located since 1800s. All of my family members have our boating licenses and we own several boats including water craft, pontoon and a wake boat. We are very active on the water during the season. We spend as much time as possible surfing, skiing, and tubing or just floating. In today's world it has been a great escape.

While I can understand that that there is some opposition to the wake created by my boat but it really isn't any larger than an average power boat powering up (plowing water). Over my life time on this lake I have seen many weather events that cause waves just as big in every direction depending on the wind. The shore line is pounded by these storms for hours and days on end during the off season. No one is around to watch as Mother Nature constantly causes the shores to erode. It is the nature of a lake to be constantly filled in by Mother Nature.

I guess my point being the 30-40 hours most recreational boaters put on over the three month season is really not detrimental to the shore line. (The mother's day floods years ago did more damage in a few days than all boaters have done in my lifetime).

The situation of waves pounding boats on the docks is an issue that has been around since boats became popular. (My dad used to get so mad!!) One could say that these boats have made that more common. But really it is the number of all types of boats have made this more common. When I was young we had the whole lake basically to ourselves today we must share it with many more boaters than before. As with most things there are many solutions to this that have been used on larger lakes where wider deeper hulled boats have been for years. Things like larger rubber dock bumpers, dock whips (hold boats out from dock), shore stations. Many of these would solve the issue.

In concluding I think setting guidelines for all boaters and education Boaters need to respect their neighbors so we all can enjoy the water. That would be would be the best course. Thank you for your time considering my objection to HB229

Michael Whitcher & Family

From Strafford NH (Bow Lake)

I

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:54:44 PM
From: Marla Foulger
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:22:13 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Vote NO on House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

Please know that I oppose House Bill 229!

We own a home on Lake Winnepesaukee in the town of Wofeboro. We gather our children and grandchildren together every summer to enjoy each other and make memories. We (3 generations) all enjoy many hours behind our boat to tube, water-ski, wake surf, and go for long rides. It is a great way for us to bond, encourage one another, and learn how to do new activities which encourages self-esteem.

The adults in our family have boat licenses and know the boating regulations and how to be responsible drivers. I believe the issue is the importance for boat drivers to be responsible and considerate, not single out specific types of boats.

We have owned our home since 1986, and we have not noticed any erosion changes in our shoreline or on our beach.

Thank you for considering my opposition to HB 229. Please focus on the education of boaters and the enforcement of current laws – not singling out certain watercraft. Everyone should be able to share the water responsibly.

Sincerely,
Marla Foulger
Wofeboro, NH



Wake (Ballast) Boat Position Statement NH LAKES - December 2020

What is a wake (ballast) boat?

A wake (ballast) boat is a boat designed to create artificially-enhanced wakes for activities like wakeboarding and wakesurfing. The boats do so by taking on water (ballast) to weigh down and lower the stern of the boat, thus creating a taller wake.¹

Don't all boats make wakes?

Yes, but wake (ballast) boats are designed to create significantly bigger wakes than other motor boats. Any boat when operated too close to the shoreline can cause damage, but the **enhanced wakes from wake (ballast) boats can be four feet high or more—more than other motor boats.** Wake boat manufacturers are continuously redesigning these watercraft to create even larger wakes to mimic ocean-like waves.

So, what's the problem?

- Wake (ballast) boats have an increased potential for spreading aquatic invasive plants and animals than most other motor boats, as ballast compartments are not designed to fully drain.
- The wakes from these boats, when operated in the manner designed to create artificially large waves, can do serious harm, damaging shorelines and shoreline property and disturbing the lake bottom sediment which can lead to toxic cyanobacteria blooms.
- The wakes from these boats are usually big and powerful, enough to make on-water recreation for others unsafe and unpleasant.

Aquatic Invasive Species

The ballast tanks in wake (ballast) boats are particularly hard to clean, drain, and dry. This increases the likelihood of spreading aquatic invasive species from waterbody to waterbody, or within a waterbody, because invasive plants and animals can survive several days in just a few drops of water inside a ballast tank.

Safety Concerns

Now, more than ever, individuals are seeking to get on the lake to have fun and distance themselves from others. Unfortunately, enhanced wakes often make other activities like swimming, paddling, and sailing difficult, unpleasant, and even unsafe. We believe that there are ways to share the lake, so that everyone can enjoy these public resources in the way they prefer.

The New Hampshire Department of Safety has enacted increased setbacks on some lakes for certain boating-related activities, and in some cases, does not permit certain activities in certain areas. Examining these types of issues for an increasingly popular on-water activity, like wakeboarding and wakesurfing is not a new approach.

Shoreline Erosion & Water Quality

Excessive wakes within a certain distance of the shoreline cause damage to property (like docks and moored boats) and the shoreline. Heightened wakes can also cause damage to animals that live or nest close to the shoreline, like loons, and can disrupt critical habitat for fish and other aquatic

¹ <https://www.boatus.com/magazine/2018/april/wake-boats.asp>

species. The lowered stern, powerful engines, and wake action of wake (ballast) boats can churn up nutrient-rich lake bottom sediments, encouraging toxic cyanobacteria blooms.

NH LAKES is supporting two pieces of proposed legislation in the 2021 session:

The first adds the act of “wakesurfing” to existing safety legislation, requiring observers and personal flotation devices.

The second defines wake boats as, “any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments, containers, plumbing or similar devices or systems designed to alter or enhance the characteristics of the boat’s wake.”

This legislation is proposed for the 2021 session of the New Hampshire Legislature.

So, is NH LAKES trying to ban wake (ballast) boats?

No. NH LAKES is seeking to inform sound, science-based boater behavior that will establish safe buffers and setbacks for the creation of enhanced wakes on New Hampshire’s lakes—so that everyone can enjoy our lakes, no matter if they wakesurf, wakeboard, canoe, kayak, waterski, swim, or tube. University-based research is underway. The data may indicate that there are some smaller lakes, or areas of lakes, where the activities of wakeboarding and wakesurfing may pose a significant threat to the health of our lakes or the safety of other boaters. The New Hampshire Department of Safety has enacted increased setbacks on some lakes for certain boating-related activities, and in some cases, does not permit certain activities in certain areas—examining this issue for the activities of wakeboarding and wakesurfing is not a new approach.

NH LAKES is not trying to influence or determine lake lifestyles and the broad spectrum of otherwise legal and safe outdoor recreational activities. As an advocate for clean and healthy lakes, NH LAKES is concerned about the impact from the operation of these type of watercraft on the health of our lakes, the safety of all boaters, and crucial habitat.

Importance of Boating in New Hampshire

The recreational boating industry brings over \$1 billion into the New Hampshire economy in areas including manufacturing, sales, lodging, and services.² This revenue plays an important role in the health of New Hampshire’s economy. NH LAKES supports the boating industry and the safe, enjoyable use of New Hampshire’s lakes for everyone. Boating, tubing, wake boarding, wake surfing, swimming, paddling, and fishing have become even more important to families during the pandemic to provide family bonding while remaining socially distant from others. NH LAKES supports accommodating a multitude of uses and safe enjoyment of our lakes for all users.

Who else agrees?

NH LAKES is working with many local groups who share our concerns about the spread of aquatic invasive species, shoreline erosion, property damage, and safety. Boating manufacturers are in agreement that ballast tanks increase the threat of spreading aquatic invasive species and are working on redesigning tanks to more fully drain.³ We are working with local partners and supporting the boating industry to create the best possible outcome for everyone. Our action is in response to increasing concerns from our membership and in line with our mission to maintain clean and healthy lakes.

² <http://encourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1434/reports/Commission%20to%20Study%20Wake%20Boats%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

³ <http://encourt.state.nh.us/statstudcomm/committees/1434/reports/Commission%20to%20Study%20Wake%20Boats%20-%20Final%20Report.pdf>

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:12:53 PM
From: Marie Samaha
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 11:32:08 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boat Legislation
Importance: Normal

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

To members of the House Resources Recreational Development Committee:

I am in favor of limiting the use of Wake boats in our NH waters. I believe they should be limited to large open areas of our larger NH lakes for the following reasons:

- Wake boats create a large wave that hampers swimmers. I encountered this when I was swimming with my 9 year old grand nephew in Meredith Bay. He is a good swimmer, but got inundated with a large wave when a wake boat went by and almost lost his ability to swim. I was glad I was near him and could help him recover.
- In shallower bays, narrow inlets and smaller lakes, like Lake Kanasatka, wake boats stir up the bottom, causing cyanobacteria blooms. In these areas they also cause damage to docks due to rough water hitting up against them. I am a Moultonborough Conservation Commission member and encountered one lake side owner who is putting in a new dock as wake boats caused water disturbance that damaged his existing dock.
- I am also a Lake Host and know that wake boat ballasts can carry water containing aquatic invasive plants and spread them to other parts of a lake or other lakes.
- Wake boat waves can damage shorelines, eroding plants and causing increased stormwater runoff.

Like me, I know you realize the importance of our lakes and the necessity to regulate those activities and/or boats that may cause them harm. For these reasons I encourage you to support regulations that will allow the use of wake boats, but with guidelines on where and how they should operate.

Thank you for your attention to my email. I look forward to hearing about your work on this issue.

Marie Samaha
32 Fox Hollow Road
Moultonborough, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:14 PM
From: Barbara Dooley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:11:02 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Fwd: Wake boat legislative hearing scheduled for February 3!
Importance: Normal

Hello,

It has been suggested that I forward to the entire committee for consideration by the NH Lakes.

I would also like to add to my email below that not only is Cobbetts Pond one of the smaller lakes, it is also very fragile due to the weed problem. The wake boats are not only causing damage to the waterfront but it is cutting and churning up the bottom of the lake and dispersing the weeds. When both my husband and I first came to Cobbetts it was one of the cleanest lakes in the state and now it is at the bottom of the list.

The real estate on the lake contributes significantly to the tax base of Windham and I would think that all the owners on the lake would want to protect the investments of the property.

Thank you for your consideration.
Regards,
Barbara Calt-Dooley

Subject: Re: Wake boat legislative hearing scheduled for February 3!

Dear Representative Smith,

As you have sponsored HB229 I would like to respond to you my concerns and the concerns of all my neighbors.

I have had a home on the shores of Cobbetts Pond in Windham for 34 years. My husband has lived on the pond on and off for 78 years. With the introduction of the wake(blast) boats the shoreline has experienced more and more erosion with wall and earth damage, as well as damage to boats tied to their docks. Cobbetts Pond is a little over 300 acres with one half smaller and narrower than the other. There should be restrictions on the use of these boats for pulling skiers, as the wake starts at the boat and rolls into the shore for about 5 minutes ending with the splashing over the walls and into the land.

I have spoken at the Cobbetts Pond Improvement Assoc. on several occasions about my concerns, they tell me I must go to the state but their concern is not great as most of the officers have their own wake boats.

I have multiple photos and even a couple of movies that show the effects. I would be available to speak on the phone(603-490-7513) or via zoom during the meeting tomorrow if you feel it is needed. Please let me know.

I have also copied the two reps from Rockingham County on this email who are listed on the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee.

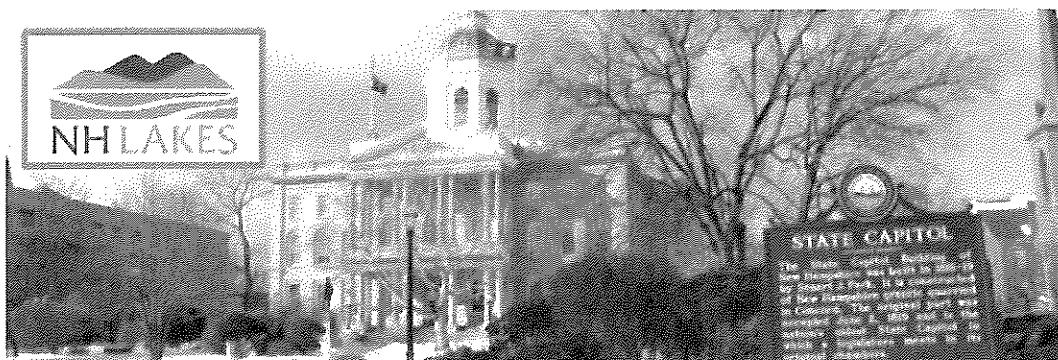
Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion.

Sincerely,
Barbara Calt-Dooley

-----Original Message-----

From: Michelle at NH LAKES <mdavis@nhlakes.org>
To: Barbara <bcalt@aol.com>
Sent: Mon, Feb 1, 2021 11:21 am
Subject: Wake boat legislative hearing scheduled for February 3!

[View this email in your browser](#)



ADVOCACY ALERT

Working for clean and healthy lakes
February 1, 2021

Dear Barbara,

The moment we've been waiting for is nearly here. House Bill 229 will be heard by the House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee on Wednesday, February 3 at 3:00p.m.

If you're concerned about the impacts that wake (ballast) boats are having on your favorite lake, now is the time to take action!



There are several ways to advocate in support of HB 229 including calling or emailing members of the House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee or by providing verbal or written testimony to legislators on February 3. Things are different this year, and public testimony is being heard virtually. You can weigh in from the comfort of your home. Instructions on how to provide testimony can be found here.

Please reach out to me directly and let me know if you plan to testify on February 3! We need your support to keep our lakes clean and healthy.

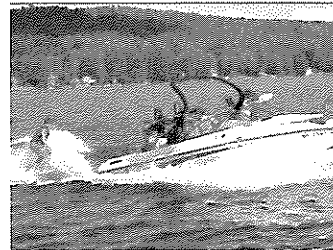
Best,

Michelle Davis, Advocacy Program Coordinator
mdavis@nhlakes.org

What is House Bill 229?

House Bill 229 defines wake boat as, "any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments,

containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed to alter or enhance the characteristics of the boat's wake, and is also known as a 'ballast boat.'"



When used in certain ways, wake (ballast) boats pose a threat to the health of New Hampshire's lakes in the form of shoreline erosion, property damage, disturbance on the lake bottom, and the spread of aquatic invasive species. NH LAKES wrote a **position statement about the impacts of wake (ballast) boats on New Hampshire's lakes.**

Read our Position Statement

Need some tips on how to advocate?

Check out our page full of suggestions on [advocating effectively for our lakes](#). Remember--our legislators are busy volunteers. Be prepared with an outline or script for your conversation or testimony.



Be polite, be concise, and present the facts!

Navigating the State Legislature



Who's My Legislator?
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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:47:28 PM
From: Matt Brunelle
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:00:49 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

Hi there I think that wake boats should be allowed on the lakes! Coming from someone that's in the marina industry these are one of the top selling boats out there if we ban them theres goes a lot of marina revenue and some marinas could take a big hit from this.

Thanks
Matt

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:44:03 PM
From: DougieRasp
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:14:23 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats ballast boats wake boats loud music early mornings
Importance: Normal

House resources

I'm against the erosion. It's terrible soil loss
And disruptive waves caused by these wake or ballast boats
Boats tied to docks get beat up
There has to be a reasonable solution
Each lake should have a central location out in the largest portion of the lake to perform these
wake boards or surfing out in the middle of the lake
Not to mention the loud music early mornings from these types of boaters
It's getting worse as the years pass more and more of them

Doug Rasp
Lake Winnisquam
Sanbornton NH
Tel. 603-674-4083

360 Blackbrook Rd
Sanbornton NH. 03269

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:51:00 PM
From: Ted
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:45:56 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives:

Thank for taking on this issue of "wake boats". To anyone who says they are no different than any other boat, I say come sit on our shoreline at Bow Lake for a sunny day in July and watch the waves roll in after the Myriad of boats that pass and then tell me that the wake boats are no different than other boats! The wake boat waves are at the very least double those of other boats. And those waves are causing damage to the shoreline, beaches and docks like never before in our many years on the lake. I can give several examples of damage to our shoreline but first, why not just ask other boaters on the lake how they fare once they've run aside from one of the wakers.

We've seen pontoon boats nearly swamped as a result of the surf created by passing wake boats! I would also invite you to come and inspect our shoreline to see first hand what has occurred in recent times. Once again, I thank you for looking into this issue and if I can be of help please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,
Ted Sharples
tedsharples@hotmail.com
757-323-0668

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:53:32 PM
From: Spencer Henriod
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:51:14 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake Boats
Importance: Normal

Hello,

As a longtime boater and user of New Hampshire's beautiful lakes, I encourage you to oppose HB 229.

Trends in water sports have been away from waterskiing, and towards wake surfing and wake boarding for two decades. My kids love these sports, and some of our fondest memories have been spent on a boat watching them learn and progress. Wake surfing is an amazing sport for people of all ages because it is done at lower speeds, and has minimal impact on the body.

Our family would be devastated if we couldn't continue to use our boat in the way we've become accustomed.

Please vote no on HB 229.

Thank you,

Spencer Henriod and family

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:59:11 PM
From: Sandy Bertha
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:12:55 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

We have been enjoying the lake with our family for 50 years and part of that enjoyment is wake surfing, water skiing and wakeboarding. The only have we spent a great deal of money on boats to provide that entertainment for our family as have so many other people living on the lake, but it is good for the economy do have Lake Winnepesaukee be a tourist destinations for water sports, if they can't get it there they will go elsewhere, the marinas will not do as well, as well as many of the water sports stores and instructors. Please don't take this memory and experience away for our family in the hundreds if not thousands of other families on the lake.
~Sandy

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:49:53 PM
From: Dick Snyder
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:14:45 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

I am in favor of limiting where on the lake Wake boats can be used. Even wake boats more than 300 yards from our shoreline send huge waves crashing into our dock.

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:44:03 PM
From: Ed and Louanne Stephenson
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:00:58 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Lisa Eggleston
Subject: Wake or ballast boats
Importance: Normal

There has been a lot of negative comments about wake or ballast boats. They are something that people either love or hate. There seems to be no middle ground.

The purpose of the boat is to create waves, so that people can surf behind the boat. On a large lake, the waves can be avoided. On a smaller lake, they will be completely offensive to the casual boater or family out cruising.

They will also create addition erosion on the shoreline.

My main objection to the ballast or wake boats is the inability of the boat owner to 100% dry their ballast tanks. This will spread the larvae of invasive species from infected lakes to non infected lakes. We do not need the spiny water flea, Asian clam or zebra mussels spreading into our lakes and rivers. They can also pick up fragments of milfoil and other invasive plants, spreading them to uninfected lakes.

The effect on shoreline erosion should be thoroughly studied before the boats are allowed on our lakes.

Unless the ballast tank can be completely rinsed and 100% dried, the boats should be banned from any New Hampshire lake, bay or river.

Ed & Louanne Stephenson
603-897-9707
26 Nancy Drive, Belmont, NH

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:53:32 PM
From: Cheryl Mrozienski
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:53:08 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Michelle Davis; Michael Harrington; Kurt Wuelper
Subject: wake surfing (HB229) testimony from Bow Lake in Strafford, NH
Importance: Normal

Dear Representatives of the Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee,

I'd like to provide public testimony to the upcoming 2021 NH HB229 relative to wake surfing. I live on Bow Lake in Strafford, NH and have seen first hand what has been happening on the lake with these type of boats. I cannot attend the public hearings, since I have to work. I am hoping my testimony reaches the correct people, so it can be included in support of any bills related to defining what a wake boat is and the need for regulating their use.

Wake surfing has picked up significantly on Bow Lake over the last few years. As a result, I have a number of safety and environmental concerns with the use of these large wake boats on Bow Lake, located in Strafford and Northwood. Wake boats are more dangerous than any other boat I've seen on Bow Lake. Can you please consider an amendment (or additional bill) which includes regulating wake boats, before someone gets seriously hurt? What follows is a list of things that concern me about wake boats and the large waves they make:

- Bow Lake is used for many activities that have become dangerous when one or more wake boats are being operated on the lake at the same time. For example, I have witnessed the overturning of multiple sail boats and canoes and the swamping of multiple pontoon boats caused by the large waves from wake boats.
- I have witnessed large waves crashing on my shore from these wake boats, even when they are operated in the middle of the lake. As a result, my shoreline is quickly eroding. Bow lake is a medium size NH lake, and the waves do not completely dissipate before they reach the shore. It's true that they are not as large at the shore as they are right next to the wake boat. But, even at the shore they are still much larger than the wakes of other boats traveling around the lake. I have read that the waves from wake boats dissipate quickly, which is not what I have observed. I can try to get some video of these waves crashing on my shore, if that would help?
- Some of the Bow Lake wake boaters are out there all day and often in the middle of the night, which is illegal. As a result, the waves are crashing on my shore all day and much of the night. I miss the peace and quiet, which was the reason I moved to the lake twenty five years ago. I understand everyone needs to share the lake with others, but it would be nice if we could somehow compromise?
- Bow Lake is home to five loon nesting areas. Flooding of nests is also a concern of mine.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my concerns.

Regards,

Cheryl Mrozienski
219 Northwood Rd
Strafford, NH 03884

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:42:39 PM
From: Darrin Vincent
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:28:34 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Jodi Grimbilas
Subject: We're all opposed to HB 229
Importance: Normal

Honorable Legislators,

Please do not vote in favor of HB 229. Our family along with thousands of other families enjoy countless hours of watersports behind our boat. To define it so it can be banned or regulated differently from a Bass boat or a runabout is infringing on what we hold dear as New Hampshire residents. HB 229 is no different then banning snow skiing. New Hampshire has a strong and robust tourism business and has always been a place folks can come up from the city to enjoy outdoor activities behind boats such as tube, wakeboard, barefoot, waterski and surf. To take that away from our families will have such a negative impact. Today there are so few things we can do as a family and with drugs and alcohol destroying our communities we need everything we can to keep New Hampshire families active and strong together.

Thank you for your consideration,

The Vincent Family

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:31:33 PM
From: Claude Lemoi
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:03:33 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Michelle Davis
Subject: Written Testimony re: HB229
Importance: Normal

To the NH House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee,

Please consider my written testimony, below, when you review HB229, defining "Wake Boats".

I have owned and operated a variety of powerboats for most of my life on several lakes in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. Of particular note, I routinely enjoyed long days on a 22 foot powerboat on Lake Winnepesaukee for 20 years. I am also an officer and active member of a small Lake Association in New Hampshire. We are actively engaged in efforts to conserve the recreational and environmental quality of New Hampshire lakes.

I recognize that traditional powerboats are disruptive to the natural environment as it is. But that horse is out of the barn, and I, along with millions of other Americans, would not give up the pleasure of various power boating activities. But, there should be reasonable restrictions, appropriate to a lake's size and depth, such as existing speed limit laws, size limitations, and personal watercraft bans which are already in place on some New Hampshire lakes. Common sense rules and regulations protect public safety and minimize environmental impacts.

With that background, I am very concerned about the impacts of wake boats on New Hampshire lakes. These boats, weighted with ballast, displace a great deal of water at operating speed, creating very large waves in their wake. These large waves pose a safety risk to other boaters, swimmers, docks, and swim rafts. They damage the environment by stirring up bottom sediments, fragmenting and spreading weeds, and severely eroding the shoreline.

There is also another significant environmental concern. Wake boats typically pump lake water in and out of holding tanks to adjust the amount of ballast. Harmful organisms, especially aquatic invasive species such as Milfoil fragments and Asian Clam larvae will certainly be present in the ballast water if they exist in the lake. Ballast tanks and bags are nearly impossible to clean and drain completely without professional decontamination services. These devices are ideal habitat for transient aquatic invasive species and pose an expensive threat to the state of New Hampshire, since they will undoubtedly move water (and potentially harmful organisms) from one waterbody to another. According to NH DES, an effective way to permanently eliminate infestations of these invasive species has not been found.

Fortunately, it is early in the life cycle of this class of boats, and therefore most small lakes, including my own, have not seen wake boats yet. That all means we cannot provide hard evidence of damage or harm as of yet. Please do not wait for such hard evidence before taking proactive, preventive action. Once there is evidence of actual damage and harm, it will be too late.

I believe creating a legal definition of wake boats is a necessary first step to allow New Hampshire to enact appropriate rules, regulations, and restrictions, as appropriate, to address the safety and environmental risks described above.

Please recommend HB229 to the NH House of Representatives as "Ought to Pass".

Claude Lemoi
Canaan, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:52:34 PM
From: Greg Why
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:30:52 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: A note in opposition to HB229
Importance: Normal

Respectfully to Members of the Committee,

I have been a summer resident of Wolfeboro on Lake Winnepesaukee for 52 years, with multiple generations of my family enjoying a wide variety of activities on the water, from antique boat restoration, water/wake sports, sailing, canoeing/kayaking, etc.

With interest I have followed the HB137 Wake Boat Commission (with July 2020 final report), and I was supportive of what seemed like a sensible conclusion to pursue more education and enforcement of existing regulations to manage the safe operation of wake & water ski activities on NH lakes. My understanding is that this Commission did not advocate creating a definition of a wake boat, rather it unanimously supported HB 115 to improve wake sport safety (which I support and was also supported by Marine Patrol).

It seems obvious that attempting to define a certain class of power boat sets up future regulations to limit or curtail that boat's use. The Commission report did not have any clear data/conclusion regarding adverse impacts of wake boats on environmental or safety elements. If large wakes are of concern, there are other types of vessels on Winni that generate similar and often larger wakes which I have seen in various areas where wake boats operate – larger twin screw cabin cruisers, 30-40ft Formula-type boats, even the Mount Washington, etc all throw large wakes when operating at cruising speed. Those types of boats don't seem to be drawing attention, yet have similar impacts if operated carelessly.

Perhaps we can focus legislation on the operator and their behavior (with fines/consequences for bad behavior), versus singling out an entire class of boat

Regards,
Greg Why
19 Lewando Lane
Wolfeboro, NH



February 1, 2021

Dear Chairman Renzullo and Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee:

The Lakes Region Tourism Association represents over 450 businesses in the Lakes Region and Central New Hampshire. The Association is opposed to HB 229. At this time, the study commission for HB 137 agreed education for all types of boats and safety needs. HB 229 is not providing any necessary meaning to meet the commissions' recommendations.

New Hampshire's recreational boating industry contributes approximately \$1.2 billion in annual economic activity and supports over 6,700 direct and indirect jobs in the state. New Hampshire is one of the top 10 states where outdoor recreations economy presents a significant percentage of the state's GDP, according to the US Bureau of Economic Analysis on Outdoor Recreation in 2019.

At this time, no other state in the country has established such regulations or bans on wake boats or ballasts. Also, we are not aware of any known reports of injuries in New Hampshire relevant to these types of boats. Instead of establishing an unnecessary definition that will lead to regulations on this family recreational activity, we should focus on building awareness and increasing boating education to keep people and our lakes safe and clean.

A ban on these types of activities would put an added burden on our economy during an increasing difficult time for our residents; summer camps; second homeowners and visitors.

As a tourist region, we do not want to have a reputation as a State that discourages family watersports. We would be happy to assist with distributing to our members and visitors any necessary educational messages to emphasize safety while on our waters and ways to keep our lakes clean.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (603) 286-8008.

Sincerely,

Amy L. Landers

Executive Director

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:28:12 PM
From: Ben Solky
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:07:20 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

Please oppose this legislation meant to define "wake boats" as a special class of boat in an effort to restrict their use.

This is completely contrary to the freedom for which New Hampshire is so proud.

Thank You,
Benjamin Solky
Alton Bay Homeowner

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:31:26 PM

From: Bill Musch

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:17:15 PM

To: Michelle at NH LAKES: 'rjlynn4@gmail.com'; Charles McMahon; Julius Soti; Regina Birdsell; Cc: 'dgblundell@windwhip.com': ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: Support House Bill 229 - Wake boat legislative hearing

Importance: Normal

Michelle and my Legislators

I am a resident of Cobbetts Pond located in Windham, NH.

In the past couple of years the population of wake boats has grown substantially (20-30 wake boats) with the latest models being 24 ft. The concerns of shoreline erosion, safety for other recreation activities, and water quality are definitely valid and the impact real today for Cobbetts Pond.

I understand wake boats are a right to own and use. When properly used wake boats provide recreation and enjoyment for the users. The problem is the proper use. We need wake boater education and regulations as to distance from shore and other boats & swimmers, and proper depth of water where used.

The wake boat when used for surfing and ballast tanks full draw 4 to 5 ft and impact the sediment of the bottom in waters under twenty feet.

The proposed House Bill 229 defines what a wake boat is. This is a good start but there needs to be regulations created to specifically define the proper use of wake boats especially with regard to depth and distance from shore and other recreational boaters and swimmers.

I support House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to support House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. I would also ask that our legislators introduce regulations regarding the proper use of a wake boat on public waterways.

William Musch

14 Viau Rd

Windham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:31:26 PM

From: Bill Musch

Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:17:15 PM

To: Michelle at NH LAKES; 'rjlynn4@gmail.com'; Charles McMahon; Julius Soti; Regina Birdsell; Cc: 'dgblundell@windwhip.com'; ~House Resources Recreation and Development

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I support House Bill 229 and ask my representatives to support House Bill 229 Wake Boat definition. I would also ask that our legislators introduce regulations regarding the proper use of a wake boat on public waterways.

William Musch

14 Viau Rd

Windham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:27:02 PM
From: Cliff King
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 12:30:34 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake Boat Comment
Importance: Normal

I own a home on Winnisquam Lake for the past 8 years. I know I do not have answers to the issue regarding wake boats and understand that it seems impossible to put the genie back in the bottle. However, it is incredible the impact these boats have had in this period of time. I have watched the change year after year as the number and frequency have increased. The pounding the shore line and my property, and everyone's, is taking is incredible.

The dock is now constantly wet from splash making it dangerous to navigate. It never was this way when we first bought. The docked boats are being beaten to death constantly now from the huge waves. The overspray over a 4' rock wall is unbelievable.

The size and number of the waves we are subjected to from the new wakeboard boats is overwhelming at times on a weekend. What can or should be done, I have no idea, but I can tell you from first hand knowledge and experience that the impact is great and new.

Another related issue is increased noise pollution. Certainly not unique to the wakeboard boats but many are guilty, not all. Allowing non muffled exhaust on a boat, or any vehicle for that matter, is very disturbing to the surroundings. I can easily identify boats by their exhaust noise coming up/down the lake for miles and therefore minutes before they are in front of my property. As you well know sound travels far and easily on the water. This is much easier to regulate and should never gotten so out of control but one persons annoyance is another's pleasure I suppose.

Thank you for your efforts in this regard and good luck.

Clifford King
35 Lakeside Drive
Sanbornton, NH 03269
339-203-2409
King12345@aol.com

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:30:10 PM
From: Cynthia Hay
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:42:30 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229 - Impact of wake boats in NH ponds
Importance: Normal

Dear All,

My name is Cynthia Hay. My family has owned land on Little Island Pond for over 100 years. As a lifelong seasonal resident of Little Island Pond in Pelham, NH, I am writing to share my concerns over ballast boats.

The wake they produce is tremendous leaving other boaters on shore. It simply isn't possible to sail, kayak, canoe or paddle board when these boats are out. While on shore, waiting your turn, the waves crashing on shore are unbelievable, coming right up onto land and in turn undercutting the shore line. You can see it when you do get to paddle, the entire shore line is undercut with the root systems of trees now clearly exposed. Walls of natural water washed rocks that have been in place since the 40's are in ruins. Erosion is now coming further on shore. The small rock Island that once had vegetation (blueberry bushes and other shore line species) has been denigrated to a pile of rocks, all signs of green life washed away by the ridiculous and outrageous wakes of these boats.

I am all for recreation however, I do believe it is our responsibility to preserve nature and so I must speak out against the use of Wake Boats.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Cynthia J Hay
Pelham, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:33:46 PM
From: Dale Dintaman
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:51:44 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I live on lake Monomonac in Rindge N.H.
Pleased to see regulations being discussed regarding Wake Boats.
They are creating a nuisance for the smaller boats here on our small lake.
During the height of boating activity, the lake feel like a bathtub with the water swishing back and forth.
With the large wave action, it often feels like we're sitting by the ocean.

I would imagine this is damaging areas of our shoreline.

Thank you

Dale
Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:35:43 PM
From: Dale Lattanzio
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:04:06 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

Good day,

My name is Dale Lattanzio. I live at One Heron Cove in Windham NH. Our home is on Cobbetts Pond. You can't believe the damage these "wake boats" have, and can do, to lake shore property. The erosion to our property has been significant because of these boats.

We live in the "small pond" area and no matter what shore line restrictions you post the wake just builds and crashes into our docks and eats away our shore line and walls.

I understand the enjoyment of these boats and there are some lakes that can accommodate them but small narrow lakes really take the brunt of these wakes.

I ask that when considering House Bill 229 that you literally restrict these boats on small and narrow bodies of water.

Respectfully,
Dale Lattanzio

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:29:02 PM
From: Eric Leighton
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 6:40:42 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My name is Eric Leighton and I reside in Dover, NH and enjoy most my lake days at Bow Lake in Strafford / Northwood, NH. I have grown up enjoying Bow Lake my entire life, as did my father. My family owns property on Bow Lake Estates (Kooaukee Island). We have a tow boat. I am often either on our family's tow boat or best friends tow boat. I do have a NH Boat License. We enjoy the low impact / low risk sport of surfing. I have now been on Bow Lake for 27 years. I have not noticed any erosion at Bow Lake (a manmade lake – something to think about). I believe that if you abide by the NH boating laws it protects the shorelines. When we surf, we stay in the middle of the lake. When we tube, we stay in the middle of the lake. When we wakeboard / ski / etc, we stay in the middle of the lake. Staying as far away from houses as possible is a common sense practice to give camp owners peace and privacy.

I oppose HB 229.

I want to thank you for reading my email. I believe that educating all boaters on common decency and safe practices on the water is key. I don't believe a single type of boat can be singled out.

Thank you,

Eric Leighton
Sales Engineer | Eric.Leighton@hts.com



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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:41:45 PM
From: Greg Blecharczyk
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:46:33 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boat
Importance: Normal

Dear Resources, Recreation and Development committee members,
Please oppose HB229 "wake boat". This is a recreation (wakeboarding, wake surfing) which is done at a relatively slow speed in open water. Our lakes and waterways are for all to enjoy and have fun on. If everyone adheres to the no "No Wake" zones there should not be any reason to restrict wake boats from enjoying their recreation.

Sincerely,
Greg Blecharczyk
Londonderry, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:03:53 PM
From: brett nigro@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:53:24 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: 'Larissa Nigro'
Subject: HB 229 - Facts vs. Speculation Please.
Importance: Normal

Good Morning House Resources Committee,

My name is Brett Nigro and I am writing you today regarding HB 229. I live in Windham, NH, on Cobbetts Pond with my wife and two daughters ages 7 and 13. I am an active volunteer and current President for the Cobbetts Pond Improvement Association and have been on the board for 12 years. The organizations #1 priority is water quality and we have worked tirelessly with our town, the DES and the State of NH to that end. As a result of my volunteer experience, I'm well versed on the challenges that both erosion and evasive species pose to lakes in the region. Our lake's biggest issue is its nutrient load as a result of continued development in our watershed and the massive impact the expansion of Route 93 has had. I am not writing to you today on behalf of the organization however, but rather as a husband, a father and a property owner.

My family has owned a MasterCraft water sports boat for 5 years and prior to that we owned a deck boat (*pontoon on top and V-Hull on the bottom*). We moved to the MasterCraft as it was much more versatile which enables us to maximize our enjoyment while boating on the lake. It's great at cruising in comfort, tubing, swimming with the kids (no ladders for little kids to deal with is great.... and safer too!), ZUP Boarding with the kids and the gamut of watersports new and old. WE LOVE OUR BOAT and so do our guests and extended family.

Changing watercraft was huge thing for my family as it enhanced our ability to have fun as a family together on the water. It's not easy to get a 7 year old and 13 year old to do anything together willfully, but going out on our boat is the exception and is our most precious time together as a family. This is material for our choice to maintain this residence and continue to pay among the highest taxes in our town for the privilege to live on the waterfront.

In my opinion, both boats (my new and old) can make wakes of nearly the same size although they are in no way in the same class of vessel. I see boats of all types that can throw more water towards our shoreline than the so called "wake-boats" do. (*I really don't like the phrase Wake Boat as it seems political and agenda driven in nature*). Driver indifference, not boat type, is the point I am trying to make here. I harp on education to our residents all the time about respectful, thoughtful and legal boating. In addition, freeze/thaw, high water and general boating activity as a whole contribute to potential erosion issues.

As for invasive species, we have Asian Clams and Milfoil here. The first forms of milfoil appeared in the mid 60's and were most prevalent during the late 80s through the mid-90s in NH, well before the use of ballast systems were widely used. In addition, I think that transient fisherman and even our own Marine Patrol pose more of a threat to the lake. The majority of boats on Cobbett's are launched once and remain here all season and this is particularly true of watersports boat owners. My boat has never been anywhere but my lake since I've owned it. The fisherman, kayakers, paddle boarders and Marine Patrol are in and out all the time. Although we have a sign stating they MUST wash their boats they don't always appear to and to my own direct witnessing, never have.

Quick note: Watersports boats fill and expel their ballasts in deep water where invasive species are much less prevalent. What about fishing boats with live wells and the fact that all boats have bilge pumps that contain and capture water?

I support any effort that is for the betterment of water quality for our state. My concern with HB 229 is that it is a clear gateway to ban or restrict this type of vessel. Education is the issue that is getting misclassified here as the boat's fault and may yield unjust restrictions to this boating class as a result. Live Free or Die but do so fairly, justly and with faith in our residents to ultimately do the right thing given the proper tools and training. Update the curriculum of NH Boater Safety classes required to get a license and even introduce continuing education classes to catch everyone up on the latest safety standards as boat technology changes. This increases awareness and education as well as drives additional income for the state. Work with the boat manufactures and dealers to offer best practice workshops with the sale or servicing of boats.

The propoganda that some of the state's non-profit organizations are pushing out as fact is truly disappointing. It's not much different than general media. It's opinion based, agenda driven based on manipulated or inaccurate or intentionally omitted data. Fear is a great motivator/manipulator and I'm sure it doesn't hurt endowments either.... Facts vs. Speculation Please. Wide sweeping generalities and uninformed or unjust blame is a major problem in or society and proven dangerous time and again. Let's keep that out and off of our New Hampshire Lakes.

I'm sure you are getting countless emails on this topic so if you got this far through on mine, I really appreciate your reading it.

Thank you for your service in Concord.

Sincerely,

Brett Nigro
28 Horseshoe Rd
Windham, NH 03087
617-201-4700
BrettNigro@gmail.com

Linked 



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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:43:15 PM

From: Jodi Grimbilas

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:22:18 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: HB 229 - opposition letter from National Marine Manufacturers Association and Water Sports Industry Association 2.2.2021

Importance: Normal

Attachments:

NH HB229 wake boat definition opposition testimony.final 2.2.2021.pdf;

Good afternoon Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation & Development Committee –

My name is Jodi Grimbilas. I introduced myself during your Committee orientation. We represent the NH Marine Trades Association and the Water Sports Industry Association. Both organizations oppose HB 229. I have attached written testimony from the National Marine Manufacturers Association/Water Sports Industry Association in opposition to HB 229. They may not be able to be on the zoom hearing tomorrow, but I will be on the Zoom and will offer to answer any questions you may have.

One other piece of information related to HB 229 that I thought might be informative. The industry sponsored a wave action study that was presented to the HB 137 Commission. Here is the link to the video (2 min) on the industry efforts to examine wakes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=daa0U56zvw&feature=youtu.be> Also for your background, here is the bio of the research engineer who did the study: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cliffgoudey/> This study was influential to the creation of the Wake Responsibly educational campaign that New Hampshire Marine Trades Association is supporting and implementing for NH boaters.

Feel free to contact me with any questions and I will seek to get them answered for you.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jodi

Jodi Grimbilas, President

J Grimbilas Strategic Solutions LLC

(Office) 4 Park Street, Suite 101, Concord

(Mail) PO Box 233, Northwood, NH 03261

(Cell) 603-496-2638

jodi@jgstrategies.com



National Marine
Manufacturers Association



February 2, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chair
NH House Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Chairman Renzullo and Honorable Members of the House Resources Committee:

On behalf of the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA) and the Water Sports Industry Association (WSIA), we are writing to oppose HB 229 – defining “wake boat” -- because its language is overly broad and does not account for the variety of boat types and designs used for wake surfing.

We concerned that simply enacting this inaccurate definition of a wakeboat will give legislators a false sense of certainty when using it in future legislation.

NMMA is the leading trade association representing the recreational boating industry in North America. Its members include six New Hampshire-based companies, including Raymarine and FLIR Systems. In New Hampshire, recreational boating has an estimated direct and indirect annual economic impact of \$1.2 billion, supports 278 businesses and 6,800 jobs. There are about 95,000 boats registered in the state, and boaters bought \$192 million in new boats, engines and accessories in 2018.

The WSIA is the towed water sports industry’s leading advocate. It is dedicated to developing best practices, maintaining waterway access rights, educating participants and promoting safety and responsible boating practices. The WSIA is an active member of The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and is currently working with many states, including New Hampshire, in implementing WSIA’s Wake Responsible campaign. WSIA representative Chris Bischoff also served as a member of New Hampshire’s HB 137 Wake Boat Commission.

While we believe this attempt to define a wakeboat is a part of a desire by some to facilitate bans of boats used for wakesurfing from New Hampshire’s public waters, our associations also have immediate concerns about the definition’s accuracy and utility.

In our view it is no more useful to regulate wakesurfing by defining the boat a person uses for the sport than it is to regulate bass fishing by defining a boat used when fishing for that specific species a “bass boat.”

HB 229 provides a shaky platform on which to base future legislation addressing the use of a boat on New Hampshire's public waters. This definition likely is unusable and inappropriate for the purpose of promulgating regulations or laws regarding safety, use and restrictions of wake surfing.

It assumes that boats capable of being used for wakesurfing are built and primarily used for one purpose – to shape a boat wake. That is an outdated supposition. A growing number of brands and models of boats today are multi-use vessels equally able to be used as a family runabout, a fishing platform and a tow boat. Avalon's "Waketoon" pontoon boat <https://www.avalonpontoons.com/pontoon-boat/waketoon/> is but one example of such a multi-use vessel. It has no ballast tanks and was conceived and designed for many uses at a price point below that of many specialized boats used for wakesurfing.

We want to emphasize that the towed sports industry has responded aggressively to address the concerns of waterfront homeowners and others. WSIA has hired, Rich Kolb, who is a subject matter expert regarding AIS. Rich is currently working with the engine and boat manufacturers on several concepts to combat the spread of AIS. A key design element will be its ability to be retrofitted on existing boats. The efforts are currently being reviewed and tested. The towed water sports industry has AIS at the top of the priority list and is determined to develop solutions that when implemented make a properly equipped ballasted boat no more likely to transfer AIS than any other boat.

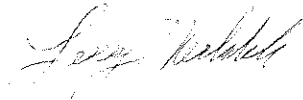
In addition, WSIA has established a "Wake Responsibly" educational program to wakesurfers directly through outreach at marine dealers, social media and signage at boat ramps. This multi-faceted program educates boaters to wakesurf at least 200' feet from shore, keep music to reasonable levels and to limit repetitive passes in the same stretch of water. All of this is predicated on encouraging a mutual respect among everyone using the waterway. More than 40 Wake Responsibly signs were installed in the summer of 2020 by New Hampshire Marine Patrol and dealers on lakes throughout New Hampshire. This campaign has been extremely well received in NH and was a key component to the HB 137 Wake Commission Report.

For these reasons, we ask that the committee not approve HB 229.

Sincerely,



David Dickerson
Vice President, State Government Relations
National Marine Manufacturers Association
ddickerson@nmma.org
(301) 793-2001



Larry Meddock
Chairman
Water Sports Industry Association
larry@wsia.net
(407) 620-7992

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:15:00 PM
From: John Reisdorf
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:24:08 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Hi there-
I would like to register my opposition to HB229

The intent to define "wake boats" classifies and attempts to restrict vessels and focuses on the vessel rather than operators of watercraft on NH waterways. Living on a lake each summer for my 29 years has shown me how negligent operation rather than the craft is problematic and we need to step up enforcement of current rules.

There have been studies provided to the legislature that show "wake boats" do not create a significant wake compared to other crafts. Additionally this demonizes boats that offers safer water sports as the propeller is tucked under the boat and away from harm. Much larger boats will continue to operate on NH waterways creating larger wakes than any wake boat could produce.

Additionally this hurts families and our boating economy, which draws folks to NH waterways to spend money into our economy.

Families such as my own has bonded over water sports and we have been a water sports family for generations at this point, with my family having grown up on lakes since 1921. I can't imagine missing out on that experience which ultimately been a driver for me to work and live in the state of New Hampshire for my entire life. This regulation will impact where I boat and may even drive me to leave the state.

Please consider that the drawbacks of restricting one type of boats have major impacts to families and unfairly demonizes one type of craft for reasons that are unfounded when compared to other types of crafts that are able to operate on NH water ways.

Thank you for your time,
John Reisdorf
54 Concord Way Portsmouth NH

Sent from my iPhone

This message was sent securely using Zix[®]

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:22:30 PM
From: Jebb Curelop
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:05:02 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon, Chairman and members of the Committee,

My name is Jebb Curelop. I am a resident of Baboosic Lake and current President of the Baboosic Lake Association.

I am extremely concerned about the potential degrading effect wake boats could have on lakes in New Hampshire. The NH Lakes Association has done much research and provided information on these effects. Specifically, wakeboats can tear up the bottom of lakes and release nutrients that promote invasive species like milfoil and toxins such as cyanobacteria. New Hampshire is already battling invasive species and cyanobacteria on many of our lakes. Our granite state relies heavily on our lakes for recreation and for our economy. We need to manage any potential threats to our lakes by defining wake boats as a first step. I fully support House Bill 229 and respectfully ask that the committee recommend passage of the bill.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit these remarks.

Sincerely,

Jebb Curelop
23 Jebb Road
Merrimack, NH 03054

Jebb Curelop

Life Coping Inc.
159 Main Dunstable Road
Suite 207
Nashua, NH 03060

Tel: (603) 888-3588
Fax: (603) 882-4004
JCurelop@lifecoping.org
www.lifecoping.org

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Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:42:04 PM
From: Rose-Lynn Armstrong
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 4:45:28 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I respectfully request that you oppose HB 229. Wakesurf boats have been operating on NH lakes without incident for years now. The sport is designed to operate at a speed of approximately 10 miles per hour — significantly slower than wakeboarding or water skiing. Wakesurf boats also operate at much slower speeds than most sit down jet skis and other motor boats. Wakesurfers prefer to avoid wakes created by other boat traffic and therefore tend to operate during the fringe hours on the lake — early morning or late afternoon/leading up to dusk. This reduces the risk of increased boat traffic on the lakes during high-use periods of the day.

For all of these reasons, I believe that HB 229 is unnecessary and I ask you to oppose the bill.

Sincerely,

Rose-Lynn Armstrong

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:27:26 PM

From: Louis Gargasz

Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:09:25 AM

To: johngargasz@gmail.com: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Cc: lgargasz@hotmail.com; lgargasz@sonesys.us; kaitlyngargasz@gmail.com;

iangargasz@gmail.com

Subject: Re: HB 299 oppostion

Importance: Normal

I have been checking the General Court website. I think you are referring to HB229 - definition of wake boat. The hearing is 3 p.m. today (Wednesday). If you go to the House Committees - Resources, Recreation and Development committee you can see how you can participate in the hearing. Have you read the bill? You should go to the General Court website and read it.

Carolyn

-----Original Message-----

From: John Gargasz <johngargasz@gmail.com>

To: HouseResourcesRecreationandDevelopment@leg.state.nh.us

Cc: Bella Laura <lgargasz@hotmail.com>; Louis Gargasz <lgargasz@sonesys.us>; Kaitlyn Gargasz <kaitlyngargasz@gmail.com>; iangargasz@gmail.com <iangargasz@gmail.com>; Carolyn Gargasz <cgargasz@cs.com>

Sent: Tue, Feb 2, 2021 5:35 pm

Subject: HB 299 oppostion

I am opposed to HB 299 which is a first step towards banning wake and surf boats on nh lakes.

John Gargasz
91 N Pepperell Rd
Hollis NH 03049

with family residences on Loon Lake and Squam lake

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:33:10 PM
From: Tyler Kelly
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:29:37 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: Tyler Kelly
Subject: HB229 - OPPOSE
Importance: Normal

Good afternoon-

My name is Tyler Kelly. In the summers, I live @ Bow Lake in Strafford, NH. My family has been on this lake since 1939.

We own a wake boat that we utilize for our family, including our kids, their friends & cousins. The 4th generation of our family on Bow Lake has grown to love the activities that the wake boat provides in this modern world, while still respecting water safety protocols & the natural beauty that Bow Lake has to offer.

I oppose HB229 as it's written because it's targeted at boat abusers & not family oriented boaters like myself who have a deep respect for the waterways that many of us dearly.

Thanks.

Tyler Kelly
603.235.4538

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:52:10 PM
From: Carole Binder
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:38:53 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229 Defining a Wakeboat
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing today to ask that you oppose HB229 on defining a wake boat.

It seems that "defining" a certain type of boat should not be necessary unless all boat types were to be "defined". Rather this bill appears to be singling out a certain type of boat to open the door for further legislation and potential restriction.

Recently there has been discussion by some who are attempting to blame certain problems on wake boats and use them as a scapegoat. In reality it would be much better for us to focus on boater education not only for safety and lake etiquette but, also as it relates to the protection of our lakes. In addition, it would be extremely helpful if we considered adding more enhanced marine patrol activity to mitigate some of the real and immediate problems encountered with inexperienced and unsafe boaters in all types of watercraft.

Our family has enjoyed being on Newfound Lake for more than 20 years, both in an association and now as waterfront owners. We were new to watersports when we first arrived and we have enjoyed waterskiing, tubing, wakeboarding and now wakesurfing with our adult children and their spouses. We learned about boater safety and became licensed. We take boating safety very seriously as well as consideration for others both on water and on the waterfront. Additionally we are active members of the Newfound Lake Region Association which serves to educate and protect our pristine lake. It is extremely frustrating to witness bad boaters who are discourteous or worse, those who are unsafe. Unfortunately it happens at times and when it does, it can be in any type of watercraft so I am baffled when non boating legislators are given the impression that wake boats are the source of bad boating.

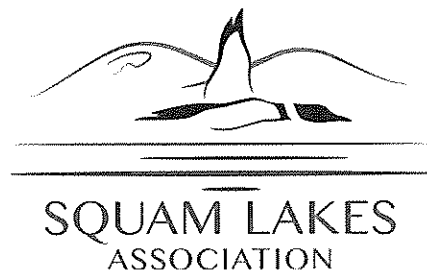
Recently erosion has become a hot topic and we have attended several events related to this issue where professors, scientists and other experts have shared their views. It is difficult for them to establish if and how much erosion is occurring and alternatively excess sedimentation is also another issue. So, if there is erosion, what are the contributing causes? Many that are considered such as weather events, lake level management, logging practices, waterfront construction, activity in the watershed, and also boating. When considering boating as a potential cause of erosion, it isn't as simple as the type of boat. One must factor in distance from shore, speed traveled, the physics of waves, etc. Why then does the finger get pointed at wake boats who surf quite a distance from shore and not at jet skis (we own one) for example or fishing boats who get tight into coves and then zoom off to their next spot? It certainly is a complex issue.

Regarding the transport of invasive lake species, I do feel this is also a concern but as much of a worry with any type of boat. Education would help to prevent this from happening with the proper cleaning and flushing of any water containing components. We have wonderful volunteer lake hosts at our public launch that work to help educate boaters on this issue and protect our lake.

Finally, I would like to mention that wakesurfing is a wonderful family activity to get everyone outdoors and enjoy the water. We have seen the economy strengthen and the boating business in NH along with it. It is a popular sport and these businesses also serve as stewards of the lake and boater safety. They give back to their communities in many ways and their contributions are very much appreciated. They are very willing to promote education and that is where the focus should be. We live in a free state as evidenced by our motto and with many of our popular sports such as snowmobiling, ATV riding, hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, etc., education and awareness seem to be the name of the game. Let's keep it that way without excess and unnecessary restrictions so that everyone can freely and safely enjoy our natural assets and keep them pristine for generations to come.

Thank you for your time.

Carole Binder
Hebron, NH



February 3, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo
Chair, House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 229 an act defining “wake boat”

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

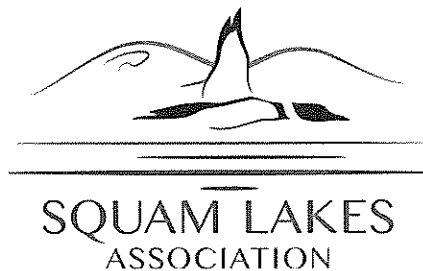
The Squam Lakes Association (SLA) is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to conserving for public benefit the natural beauty, peaceful character and resources of the Squam Lakes watershed. We are a member-based organization drawn from the communities of the Squam Watershed, protecting New Hampshire’s second largest lake for 115 years.

The SLA supports HB 229 in an effort to clearly define a “wake boat”. The improved definition of this recreational activity allows all stakeholders to have a more refined conversation about the use, regulation, and management of wake boats in NH. The SLA actively participates in work to reduce problems that may become increased by unregulated use of “wake boats”, like the spread of aquatic invasive species, damage to fragile shorelines and the lake beds from the increased wake and ballast dispersal, and the displacement of shared-use recreational activities, like canoeing, kayaking and sailing. We speak to boaters at two launches to educate the public about aquatic invasive species hitchhikers, coordinate a watershed-wide ‘Weed Watchers’ invasive species public monitoring program, deploy divers to remove invasive milfoil infestations, and support regulations and legislation that helps retain shoreline vegetation to keep the landscape intact, improving water quality. The Squam Lakes already have some of the strictest boating regulations in the state: 40 mph. daytime speed limit, no houseboats, no rafting, no jet skis, and restrictions on locations where waterskiing is permitted. By not regulating the use of wake boats in NH, ongoing wake boater activities will undermine current regulations in place, and make the SLA’s ongoing work more challenging. We ask for you to define “wake boat” in a step forward to further protect our state’s natural resources to ensure responsible and conscious shared use on NH waterbodies.

Sincerely,

Tyson Morrill
Director of Conservation, Squam Lakes Association

cc. NH LAKES



February 3, 2021

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo
Chair, House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

RE: HB 229 an act defining “wake boat”

Dear Chair Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

The Squam Lakes Association (SLA) is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to conserving for public benefit the natural beauty, peaceful character and resources of the Squam Lakes watershed. We are a member-based organization drawn from the communities of the Squam Watershed, protecting New Hampshire’s second largest lake for 115 years.

The SLA supports HB 229 in an effort to clearly define a “wake boat”. The improved definition of this recreational activity allows all stakeholders to have a more refined conversation about the use, regulation, and management of wake boats in NH. The SLA actively participates in work to reduce problems that may become increased by unregulated use of “wake boats”, like the spread of aquatic invasive species, damage to fragile shorelines and the lake beds from the increased wake and ballast dispersal, and the displacement of shared-use recreational activities, like canoeing, kayaking and sailing. We speak to boaters at two launches to educate the public about aquatic invasive species hitchhikers, coordinate a watershed-wide ‘Weed Watchers’ invasive species public monitoring program, deploy divers to remove invasive milfoil infestations, and support regulations and legislation that helps retain shoreline vegetation to keep the landscape intact, improving water quality. The Squam Lakes already have some of the strictest boating regulations in the state: 40 mph. daytime speed limit, no houseboats, no rafting, no jet skis, and restrictions on locations where waterskiing is permitted. By not regulating the use of wake boats in NH, ongoing wake boater activities will undermine current regulations in place, and make the SLA’s ongoing work more challenging. We ask for you to define “wake boat” in a step forward to further protect our state’s natural resources to ensure responsible and conscious shared use on NH waterbodies.

Sincerely,

Tyson Morrill
Director of Conservation, Squam Lakes Association

cc. NH LAKES

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:36:41 PM
From: Claudia Hurley
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 6:43:16 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Cc: mail@winnepesaukee.org
Subject: House Bill #229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members,

We have registered our support for House Bill #229, the bill to identify a wake board. We believe this legislation is essential as a first step in the eventual regulation of the use of wake boats. We believe that regulation is necessary in order to protect the lakes of New Hampshire, and to protect the other users of the lakes and the property owners surrounding the lakes.

We wish to share our experience from living on Lake Winnepesaukee, in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire.

We own a condominium in the Pine Harbor complex, on Winter Harbor, in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. We have definitely witnessed the negative impact of the ever increasing use of wake boats in that area. We keep our boat at docks there, and these wake boats often cause the lower units of our boats to hit bottom particularly during times of low water levels. At all times, the wake boats' enhanced wakes go completely over the transom of our docked boats pouring a substantial amount of water into the boats. In addition these heavy wakes are putting severe stress on our mooring lines which requires heavier lines and considerably more frequent replacement. While we do not have photographic evidence of the damage the large wakes do to our shorelines, it has been readily apparent that the shoreline has been noticeably affected particularly in those areas that are popular with the wakeboarders. We are also seeing other environmental issues which can be at least partially attributed to the surge in wake boating. Those issues include such things as less water clarity, milfoil, and algae blooms. To the extent that these are a result of stirring up the bottom of the lake, then these boats should be required to operate only in extremely deep water. The lake is very large and for now is able to fight back against some of these threats, but many of its smaller and shallower sections are struggling. We need to come up with workable solutions for the lake and its users. Thank you for listening to our concerns. Claudia and Mike Hurley

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:40:06 PM
From: David Abbott
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:19:35 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

Hello sir or Madame,

I am writing to express my view against the restriction of wake boats on New Hampshire lakes and House Bill 229. I am a homeowner in Moultonborough. My property has approximately 75 feet of shoreline on Lake Winnepesaukee. My main residence is Londonderry, NH for the past 23 years.

I have been a responsible boater for nearly 10 years, and I feel that imposing this restriction and penalty on all boaters is unfair, and not in the spirit of being a Granite Stater.

I have witnessed many wake boats operating on Lake Winnepesaukee, and the vast majority of those boaters operate responsibly and do not cause harm to property or people.

I feel that if any boaters are breaking the existing boating laws and/or regulations regarding proper operation and distancing from other people, other boats, docks or shorelines, those boaters should be reported, identified, addressed individually by the NH Marine Patrol or other proper state authorities, and penalized appropriately.

Additionally, providing proper training and education for individuals who seek to operate these vessels would give those responsible individuals the opportunity to be educated and fully considerate of the environment and fellow lakereers, while still enjoying this recreational sport.

Potentially, the state of NH could require additional training and education for wake boat operators and owners similar to the additional training required to operate commercial vehicles (such as CDL A, B or C) in our state.

I believe that we should give all individuals the opportunity to do the right thing and follow the existing reasonable rules and restrictions, and penalize the individuals who do not choose to do the right and do not follow the existing reasonable laws and restrictions, rather than penalizing and restricting everyone due to a few negligent boaters.

These are just a few ideas. I am sure there are additional creative thoughts and ideas to address the concerns that exist, without penalizing those individuals who are safe and considerate of the environment, other boater's property, and land owner's property. I would be more than happy to discuss my views with you or others.

I appreciate your time and consideration, and your service to our state. Please stay safe and healthy.

Respectfully,

David Abbott

--

David Abbott
603-320-2166

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:29:05 PM
From: Brandon Cole
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:38:02 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To whom it may concern,

It was recently brought to my attention that there will be a vote tomorrow on House Bill 229, with the potential of restricting "Wake Boats" from New Hampshire waterways. I write to you today to speak my opinion on this matter, and explain why I oppose this bill. I grew up on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee, and continue to spend my summers enjoying its beauty and everything else it has to offer. Water sports were a large part of my childhood on the lake, and they are something that I still enjoy to this day. Water sports draws many to the Lakes Region of New Hampshire, and it plays a large role in the appeal of this area. It is no doubt that in recent years, boats have changed dramatically to provide watersports enthusiasts with the greatest possible experience, and there is no denying that these boats can pose dangers, due to the large wakes they produce. But banning these types of boats is not the answer, and will certainly cause more problems later on. Many local marinas rely mostly on the sales of these wake boats. A ban of these boats would take a heavy toll on these marinas, leading to a large decline in the local economy. Another party that would be hurt would be local boat supply stores, that take pride in their sales of wakeboards, water-skis, wake surfboards, etc. Without the need for those products in the area, those stores would also take a large loss. All business aside, activities like these continue to be a large draw for tourists coming to the area. It would be a true shame to see a decline in overall tourism, which the local economy is built on, just from this bill being passes.

If the concern of shore line preservation is still prevalent, I would recommend instating more laws regarding the usage of the boats, and harsher penalties for violation, as a full ban of these boats is truly irrational and inconsiderate. As someone who has spent their life on Lake Winnepesaukee, and sees the joy that this lake brings to people, please take my opinions into consideration in your decision. I thank you for your time in reading this email. God bless.

Respectfully,
Brandon Cole

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:50:24 PM
From: Gage Dickison
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 1:56:17 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: I Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

Good Morning, I Oppose HB 229 and ask my representatives to oppose HB 229 Wake boat definition. I would ask that our legislations recommend "Wake Safety" regarding the use of wake boats on public waterways. I have grown up on Squam Lake in Holderness NH and look forward to water sports every summer. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:29:45 PM
From: jeffparamore53@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 5:45:20 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boats
Importance: Normal

Hello

I took a picture of my property's erosion caused by one wake Boat on lake Opechee last spring. Each year they are out there before the spring water release. There are trees in the lake and the beaches are disappear due to constant wake pounding on shores. Opechee is less than 500 acres and is too small and narrow for these type of boats. Distance from shore is not great enough to diminish their wake damage. Opechee also has 3 public and six association beaches around it. Last summer I watched my 4 year old grandson get knocked down by a 4 foot wake while playing at the beach. He was coughing when he got up only to be knocked down again by a second wake before I reached to pull him out. He is now terrified to go in the lake. When swimming off a boat you have to stay away from the hull or the boat will come down on top of your head due to their big wakes. It has come to a point where their wakes have taken over other activities such as kayaking, canoeing or sail boarding. When their wakes ebb they pull soil into the lake causing a rich environment for milfoil and algae. Algae causes Cyanobacteria blooms causing our public beaches to close.

For the sake of the safety of our children and the lake's health please limit these boats and their destruction by user rules on lake size and distance from shore. Please before a child is hurt!!



Thanks

Jeff 
Go Buckeyes!

And
Pax ☹️☺️

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:32:04 PM
From: Judi Stern
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:32:48 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I am certainly in favor of HB229. Something should also be done about the high powered jet skis that hot-dog in coves. They are noisy and cause great wave action against the shoreline.

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:32:39 PM
From: Kevin Kelly
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 4:10:56 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To: all members of the New Hampshire House of Representatives, House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee
From: Kevin J Kelly
68 Glidden Road
Moultonborough, NH 03254
Subject: HB 229

I am asking you to carefully consider HB 229 and its impact on New Hampshire's lakes, both large and small. My permanent residence is on Lake Kanasatka and I have seen considerable shoreline devastation from wake (ballast) boats in this small lake. The waves are enormous and regardless of where the wake boat is, these waves reach the shore on both sides of the lake. When they reach land, they underline the shoreline and pull nutrient laden soils into the lake. Lake Kanasatka is an aging lake that is experiencing phosphorous problems. Wake boat traffic would most definitely exacerbate this problem.

Our second home (camp) is on Lake Winnepesaukee, on Moultonborough Neck in an area called Hurricane Channel. This is a very popular spot for wake boats because the water is mostly calm. When there is a wake boat operating offshore, the waves are tremendous and the shoreline and the tree roots along the shore are being washed out.

I am asking that you consider restricting wake boats to areas of wide open water where these large waves will have to travel enough distance to diminish themselves before reaching the shoreline.

Respectfully,

Kevin Kelly

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:27:50 PM
From: Linette Van Flandern
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 10:13:20 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: PLEASE OPPOSE HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

My name is Linette Van Flandern. For nearly 20 years my family and I have had the fortunate opportunity to own a home in Moultonborough, NH. In 2010 we purchased a lakefront property with almost 300 feet of water frontage on Long Island. We reside year round in MA and spend our summers enjoying lake life in NH. Our 4 children call our NH home their "peaceful place".

We own two "tow boats", a sail boat, two jet skies, a kayak and multiple paddle boards. To say the least we are an active family and always partaking in some kind of water sports. We have spent our summers living full-time in NH. Three of our children have been employed for multiple summers by the Moultonborough Recreation Department as lifeguards and swim instructors. For 10 years now my children have invited their lifeguard companions (both local and summer residents) to our home to enjoy wake sports after a long day at work. This has provided them with a wonderful sense of community and enjoyment. As a parent who has accompanied them on the boat I can see the fun these kids are having. These sports unite ALL children.. regardless of socioeconomic status, athletic ability, age and gender. These sports have given my children a reason to LOVE coming up to NH.

We spend our weekends entertaining out of town family and friends. The consensus for all parting guests is their love for wake sports....all begging to come back! We spend hours on the boat laughing and cheering everyone on as they do their wake sport. After growing up on Lake Geneva Wisconsin and now spending the last 20 years in NH we have found our 2 most loved passions. Time on our boat and time sharing meals!!

Safety, of course, is our top priority. My husband, myself and all our children have our NH boaters license. Our kids know the rules of boating and abide by them. If there is an issue with complaints of these tow boats I'm sure it lies with the operator and not the vessel or the activity. As an avid swimmer....I swim one mile everyday around the lake shoreline and encounter tow boats all the time with NO issues. Quite frankly the 2- 3 prop, 30 plus foot cabin cruisers going 30 plus mph has a greater disturbance than these tow boats going slower speeds!

My husband and I have also become enthusiasts of wake sports as well. These are sports even people our age can do without the risk of injury. I am a registered nurse and my husband an Orthopedic surgeon. We have seen injuries from water sports such as waterskiing due to the increase speed needed. We have found the beauty in wake sports is the decrease in injuries as the speed is only about 10mph as opposed to the 32-36mph needed for skiing. The boat is going slow enough during wake sports so that the people in the boat can actually have a conversation with the person in the water!

In summary, please don't take away an activity that has brought my family closer. Please don't take away an activity that allows me time with my children and their friends. Please don't take away an activity that allows me time with my "over the hill" siblings, friends and in-laws. Please don't take away an activity we love as much as golf and pickle ball! Please focus on education of boaters rather than elimination and restrictions. Please oppose HB 229

Sincerely,
Linette Van Flandern
31 Marcus Road, Moultonborough NH
18 Appian Drive, Wellesley, MA

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:34:55 PM
From: Martha Rich
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:05:22 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Support for HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Members of the Committee,

I support the proposed legislation to establish a definition for wakeboats.

As a resident on the shores of Mascoma Lake, I am glad to see your attention to this form of recreation, which is new to our lake. I would not wish to see wakeboats banned; I can see that people enjoy them.

I am concerned, however, about the potential for shoreline erosion and increase in aquatic invasive species. As a coordinator of the Eurasian milfoil control program on Mascoma Lake for the past ten years, I know how important it is to educate boaters and keep building a community effort to control invasives. I expect this bill would be a step toward sensible regulations that would balance recreational and environmental interests.

Thank you for addressing this issue. I hope to see HB 229 advance.

Martha Jane Rich
Enfield



2701 Lake Myrtle Park Rd.
Auburndale, Florida 33823-9360
Phone: (863) 324-4341 ★ Fax: (863) 325-8259
Web Site: USAWATERSKI.org

February 1, 2021

Dear Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

I write to the Committee to share USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' position on House Bill 229, a bill to define wake boats in New Hampshire. USA Water Ski & Wake Sports opposes HB 229.

USA Water Ski & Wake Sports (USA-WSWS) is the national governing body of organized water skiing and wakeboarding in the United States. USA-WSWS is a member of the International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (world governing body), the Pan American Sports Organization and the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

USA-WSWS Sports has dual mission of promoting the growth and development of recreational water skiing and organizing and governing the sport of competitive water skiing. The largest and most active water ski federation in the world, USA-WSWS has paid staff of six employees that serves more than 11,000 members across the country. Nearly 80 percent of USA Water Ski & Wake Sports' members are involved in tournament competition each year; the remainder are recreational water skiers. The organization has grown to promote all types of competitive and recreational watersports.

In 2019 and 2020, we had six sanctioned competitive tournaments in New Hampshire, and we have over 70 active members in the state.

We believe HB 229, which would create a definition of "wake boat" in law for the purpose of future regulations, to be the wrong approach. Many different types of boats are versatile and offer water sports enthusiasts the ability to water ski, wake board, kneeboard, tube, etc. New Hampshire would be the first state in the country to use this type of approach. **Boater education is a better way to improve behaviors of the boating public.** We believe our members, who are generally competitors in watersports, tend to be well versed in the boater laws. However, as an organization, we are committed to promoting the "Wake Responsibly" campaign for wake sports to our members and their families in New Hampshire going forward. It is in everyone's interest to work together to share the waterways responsibly.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nate Boudreaux'.

Nate Boudreaux
Executive Director

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:25:35 PM

From: Tracy Silverman

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:12:43 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

I am writing to register my voice in opposition to House Bill 229. I am a physical therapist and have volunteered with adaptive sports programs that run adaptive waterskiing programs for people with disabilities for 24 years. These programs serve kids to older adults, veterans, civilians, and their family members. I am concerned that House Bill 229 will have an impact on our ability to run future waterski programs. Boat drivers throughout New England have volunteered to drive the boats used to provide this amazing adaptive recreational opportunity. I fear that House Bill 229 would have a permanent, negative impact on our ability to provide this important programming.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Tracy Silverman

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:46:21 PM

From: Mary Jane Jackson

Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:31:16 PM

To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development

Subject: NH House Remote Testify: 9:00 am - HB311 in House Resources, Recreation and Development

Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been coming to Lake Winnepesaukee every summer with my family for my whole life. My mother grew up coming here every summer with her dad, and he grew up coming to visit each summer with his dad! We all have our boating licenses and years of boating experience thanks to our years of family reunions on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Regarding Bill 229, I feel that any boat of any size can create shoreline erosion, regardless of the size of the wake. When renters who don't have a history of boating experience; or a license; or a familiarity with the shorelines; drive too close to the shore on their pontoon boats or fishing boats, they can do even more damage to the shore because they don't obey the 150' rule. Many boaters drive dangerously close to our beach quite often.

I don't think that outlawing a certain size of boat will solve the problem. If anything, outlawing the most popular model of boat will entice annual visitors to move, and promote tourists to bring their business to other lakes and other towns, maybe even other states.

A better solution might be to extend the 150' law and bring a better awareness to the dangers and damage of driving any boat too close to shore.

Thank you for your consideration,
Mary Jane Jackson

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:49:07 PM
From: Sophie Hajjar
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:34:42 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: NH lakes
Importance: Normal

Hi,

I am opposed to HB 229 and do not think it should be passed. I thoroughly enjoy wake surfing and water skiing and I always do so responsibly.

Thank you,
Sophie Hajjar

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:34:34 PM
From: Nicholas Berube
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:06:20 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: House bill 229
Importance: Normal

I am a citizen from Merrimack NH, I am writing to say that I oppose house bill 229. I believe NH is known for its boating throughout the summer and as a member of that community I am someone who respects boating laws and follows them. To take a away wake boats takes away half the enjoyment of water sports. I hope you support the members of the boating community who have invested time and money into their crafts for enjoyment in NH.

-Respectfully, Nicholas Berube

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:45:57 PM
From: Tagg Romney
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 3:27:06 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: No on HB229
Importance: Normal

Hi, my name is Tagg Romney. My family and I are long-time landowners in Wolfeboro, where we spend most of our summers and many weekends during the year (in a more typical year, anyway). I am emailing to voice my strong opposition to HB 229. We love many things about the lakes region, but by far the most important draw for us is the ability to enjoy as a family the time we spend together outdoors engaged in wholesome recreation as we take turns wakesurfing.

There is nothing that we enjoy more than that time together cheering each other on as it is the one thing that people of all ages can do safely, with minimal injury risk. Our teenagers love it, our young children love it, and even we in our 50s love it. We have many guests who come from all across the country with the specific purpose of being able to wake surf together on the lake.

We bought a boat in NH whose specific purpose is wake surfing, sending state taxes, registration fees, and supporting local businesses. The guests who visit us spend money in restaurants, clothing shops, etc. Wakesurfing is great for business and a great way for families to spend time together.

I believe we do a good job of remaining respectful of neighbors and other boats, maintaining a safe distance away from them. We have many boats that surf in front of our home and we have not noticed any damage to the shoreline as a result.

Please vote no on HB229 and keep NH a place where families are free to enjoy wholesome activities together. Really 2020 has been a tough enough year, please don't have the government come in and take away our favorite activity.

Thanks,
Tagg Romney

Sent from my iPad

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:29:54 PM
From: Mrs. Mohr
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:47:12 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Oppose Bill HB229
Importance: Normal

Dear Esteemed Representatives,

I am writing today to urge you to OPPOSE HB229.

I would not be the person I am today without the connection to the lake and boats that provide a wake for athletic pursuits. I am the recipient of the 1997 Women's Wakeboarding Intermediate Award in the New England region. I have been a NH resident since graduating from college in this state. New Hampshire's lakes are gorgeous and no one cares more about them than the owners of wake boat watercraft. There is a misconception that everyone involved with wake sports is some kind of young and uncaring individual who is apathetic about the condition of the lakes and lacks concern for other people's property. This could not be further from the truth. Wake boat owners take pride in their water craft and in the condition of the lake water. I could write about this for hours but I will sum it up by saying that I am a middle-aged woman passing along a time honored tradition to my daughter. She is a wake surfer and also deeply involved in how the future generation cares for the lakes of our great state of New Hampshire. This bill is unfounded and has gross misconceptions and I urge you to oppose it.

Thank you for your valuable time and attention.

Sincerely yours,
Eva Mohr
Lee, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:36:26 PM
From: Jenny Simone
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:08:52 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

It has been such a delight for us to see our
Granddaughter wake board in the summer. Please don't outlaw.
Sincerely,
Jen and Tony Simone
Intervale

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:29:08 PM
From: Noa Siegel
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:53:10 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: OPPOSE NH HOUSE BILL 299
Importance: Normal

Hi,

I live in Wolfeboro on Lake Winni every summer and this bill would completely decrease the quality of life that my family and I have been spending on the waters for years. Please, please, please oppose this bill!!!!!! Worried New Hampshire citizens need their summer magic, especially this year.

Sincerely,
Noa Siegel

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:25:50 PM
From: Mia Whalley
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 7:32:44 AM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: OPPOSITION of House Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To the Honorable Members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee:

I'm writing in opposition of house bill 229.

I'm a NH native and have now been a local resident to the lakes region for over 15 years. We are a family of 3 - our daughter is 7.5 and we are fortunate enough to have boating access to Lake Winnepesaukee. We've owned a number of boats over the years and were able to get our daughter out learning to wakeboard and surf at a very young age.

I personally did not grow up on water (I'm a Mt girl at heart), but being exposed to it and learning various sports over the years, I've grown to love it all. Unfortunately, about 5 years after moving to this area, I sustained a back injury (at the ripe age of 30) that has prevented me from getting back to any high-speed activities on the water.

As the popularity in wake surfing increased over the past few years and having our daughter show interest in the sport- we now have a family fun activity that we can all participate in together. As a mom/female - I can't tell you how good it feels to be a remodel for our daughter and her friends - promoting a safe, fun and active sport for them to participate in.

Trust me, I understand there are environmental impact from most human activity and I'm certainly not an expert, but a boat is a boat. They all make wakes and those wakes are manipulated by many different factors- not just by style or manufacture. I strongly feel increased boater education and enforcement of the law in place in to date would have a much larger positive impact then by defining these boats into a class of their own.

Please consider this in opposition of house bill 229.
Thank you.

Mia Whalley - Owner, NEAT Method NH
603.799.1859 | www.neatmethod.com
We're Social : @neatmethod | @newhampshireneat

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:32:17 PM
From: Bill Giles
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:58:38 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB 229
Importance: Normal

To Whom It May Concern,

Please be aware that as a resident of New Hampshire and home owner on 42 Cow Island, Lake Winnepesaukee I adamantly oppose House Bill 229!!

Please vote NO on this Bill. It is not representative of the constituents that make up our great state's boating community. Enough is enough with regards to this unnecessary regulation!!

If I wanted this nonsense and regulation I would move to Massachusetts.

Best Regards,
William K. Giles

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:39:46 PM
From: Jamie Mallinger
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 5:29:17 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Opposition to HB229
Importance: Normal

My name is James Mallinger, and I have been a homeowner in New London for fifteen years. I am contacting you regarding HB 229 and I would like to register my opposition to this bill and ask that you vote against this initiative.

I appreciate the service the members of the committee do for the community and the state and realize the importance of the process of hearing everyone's opinion.

I've been an avid boater and watersports enthusiast since moving to the area. I equally enjoy my time in the water swimming, paddle boarding and kayaking, and in our boat doing watersports. In my experience, the community of boaters and water enthusiasts respects the current laws and guidelines for boating and behaves appropriately and safely. Of course, there are times when people are disruptive or unsafe, but largely through good behavior and normal neighborly checks and balances, the water remains a great and safe place to recreate.

In my view additional boater education relative to environmental, safety, and community impacts are the optimal path for ensuring everyone is able to get the maximum benefit from our waterways. Additional legislation and regulation requires incremental enforcement resources which costs additional money each year which could likely be best spent on social programs, healthcare, and education.

If it would be useful, I am happy to speak with you live about this topic and answer any questions you may have.

I appreciate your consideration and hope that you vote against B229.

Regards,

--
Jamie Mallinger

Email: jamie.mallinger@gmail.com

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:27:16 PM
From: Tom Cote
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the honorable members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

My name is Tom Cote and I live in Chichester New Hampshire. I am a manufacturing Engineer here in New Hampshire and I came to New Hampshire after the military. I grew up in Massachusetts and I envied living in the state of New Hampshire as New Hampshire was a state that was much more welcoming and allowed families to enjoy the outdoors and freedoms with much less restrictions than Massachusetts. The motto live free or die was something that stuck with me especially having served in the Marine Corps.

I have been boating for a few years now and I own a boat that I wakeboard and surf behind. I have created countless memories with my family on my boat. My family all lives in Massachusetts still and having a boat that can do water sports behind it gets the whole family together for an amazing time on the lake. My father in law is 55 and he gets behind my boat to wakeboard and he absolutely loves it.

I completely understand the need to want to protect lakes from invasive species and from erosion, but with the proper education any boater who has purchased one of these expensive boats will certainly be respectful and follow the rules. Since New Hampshire requires a boaters license class I feel adding a component to the class about courtesy with a wake boat would go a long way as opposed to banning or limiting a class of boats on the water that has created so many memories and fun times. I recently took a course in New Hampshire so I could have my boating license and there was nothing in the class about wake boat courtesies or any education on them. This would be very helpful I believe

I want to thank the committee very much for taking the time to read this and please oppose HB 229. The waterways are a public place that should be able to be enjoyed by all boaters as long as it is done responsibly. Please consider further education instead of bans.

Thank you very much for your time.

Respectfully,
Tom Cote

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:26:48 PM
From: Tom Cote
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:17:18 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please oppose HB 229
Importance: Normal

To the honorable members of the House Resources, Recreation and Development Committee,

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Thank you very much for your time.

Respectfully,
Tom Cote

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:33:25 PM
From: Ray Hendrickson
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:52:07 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB 229
Importance: Normal

I am a lifelong NH boating enthusiast wanting to indicate my concern for the recent push to have the legislature create a separate category for "wake boats". I do own a wake boat along with a pontoon boat and two jet skis. My family uses each of them responsibly and within the rules of the state. The wake boat is the one we use for teaching the grandkids to waterski and wakeboard and doing so has them fall in love with the NH lakes like I did in my early 20s.

I believe that creating a separate category for wake boats is completely wrong. If there should be separate categories based on the size of a boat which then has separate rules governing it, then fine. But it is not right to target wake boats as many non-wake boats create significantly larger wakes than wake boats. I know there are times that wake boat operators may play loud music, but the same can be said for pontoon boat operators too. It is just not right for wake boats to be classified differently which is the first step in targeting them for regulation which there is no basis for.

I have been a proud NH lakefront landowner and boat owner since 1990 and I love New Hampshire's motto of "Live Free or Die". Please do everything you can to avoid an unnecessary and misplaced first step of targeted regulation of wake boats in our "free" state.

Regards,
Ray Hendrickson
27 Rogers Ledge Dr
Hebron, NH 03241

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:34:10 PM
From: ROBIN SHIELD
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 3:31:03 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please support HB 229 defining Wake Boats
Importance: Normal

From: Robin Shield 224 Dane Rd. Center Harbor NH 03226

Dear Representatives,

I am in **SUPPORT of HB 229** to define Wake Ballast Boats because I have seen first-hand how **they are FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT** than all other boats on Squam lake.

During the summer I live lakeside at 5 Red Lodge Rd in Holderness, NH and I also have a home at 224 Dane Rd, Center Harbor, NH.

The area of the lake that I live is a popular waterskiing location, so I have had the opportunity to observe lots of tow-sporting activity from my dock. Families spend countless hours off of my dock tubing, travelling in circles to make as much fun as possible on their tubes, and waterskiing and wake boarding behind regular ski boats of all kinds.

Wake Ballast Boats are significantly different due to the effects of their larger wake. The **DESTRUCTIVENESS OF THE WAKE THEY PRODUCE** to the posts on my dock and the shoreline (both manmade and natural), to my boat, and boathouse is alarming. The size of the waves from wake boats sloshing into my 90-year-old boat house, a boat house that until now has withstood all of that waterskiing and tubing, the size of the waves are so unnaturally large that they are **imposing an economic cost** to me. I will have to spend thousands of dollars to purchase and install a boat lift to get my boat out of that sloshing, if I want to continue to enjoy the use of the building, a building that I pay substantial property taxes on. Additionally, the posts of my dock, again that is generations old, are unnaturally tugged at if a boat is tied to the dock when a wake boat passes by, but not so when a regular ski boat causes waves.

The waves from Wake Boats that crash onto the shoreline are much larger than all the other boat wakes, and **much much larger than any natural waves** that could be blown up by a gale in my cove. These extra-large wake boat waves, (they are enormous in the context of a lake shore biome that never sees those waves naturally), are causing economic damage to my property by washing out the shore and washing behind the 100 year old stone wall at the shore. (read "lasted a century until the invention of Wake Boats")

I see significant shoreline impact on the natural community being lashed by the big rollers, with erosion and whatever else is happening to the animals there, sediments are disturbed and washed into the lake on top of Sunfish nests and things like that. Any natural loon nest site in our cove is likely imperiled if it is washed over by the Wake Ballast Boats' wake.

I love participating in motor boating, and tow sport activities, but I know the Wake Boats are a whole different animal and the boats need to be in a category of their own. Wake Boat surfing and boarding is a so-called "fun for the whole family activity" **except that it has a very destructive side**, physical and economic, to the shoreline inhabitants, human, animal, plant, and to the

sediments that get washed up and stirred around. Wake Boats are not your average everyday tow boats and need to be defined otherwise.

Dare I add that allowing the spreading of invasive species in the residual ballast water of Wake Boats, for the short term economic gain, is the tragedy to our lakes from these boats.

Please support HB 229 and define Wake Boats.

Sincerely,

Robin Shield

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:27:23 PM
From: Sue West
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 11:01:40 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Bill 229
Importance: Normal

To each of you on this committee, if you love our New Hampshire lakes, PLEASE vote for Bill 299.
Thank you, Susanna West, P.O. Box 312, Center Conway, N.H. 03813

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:28:31 PM
From: Thomas Rohrer
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 9:57:11 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Please oppose Wake Boat Definition Bill HB 229
Importance: Normal

Dear Committee Members;

I live in Meredith, NH on Lake Winnisquam and have enjoyed all of its beauty for the last 17 years. It is one of the most spectacular places we know on the planet and absolutely cherish it. We keep our boat on the lake all summer and absolutely love all aspects of life out on the water.

We use our boat to tour friends around the lake, to go swimming, to fish, and to engage in a variety of different water sports. It has been one of the best and most important things for our family and has created so many wonderful memories over the years. As our children have grown, they have become more and more engaged in the wake sports of boating and have become exceptionally good. Watching them do flips and all sorts of tricks has been a thrill for all of us. My wife and I have also been very into wake surfing these past few years. We love that the slow speed (10 MPH) is very low impact and gentle on our aging bodies. The idea of defining these tow boats as wake boats and then regulating them is very distressing for all of us. We are licensed and responsible boaters, we do not go out too early, we keep a safe distance from shore and other boats, do not drink, and do not cause any issues.

We have also not seen any issues with other "wake" boats either. They seem to be owned by the more experienced and responsible boaters on our lake. The issues we see regularly on Winnisquam lake are unfortunately with pontoon boats. They are frequently operated by inexperienced, often inebriated, and at times reckless boaters. When we see these types of boats, we have an unwritten rule to always steer clear as they have a tendency to act erratically. If anything, I would like to see more regulation and enforcement about who can operate boats on the lake. Continuing education and close monitoring and enforcement of marine law would be welcome. We must continue to keep our lakes safe and healthy for all those who enjoy them.

Thank you very much for listening to my concerns about this bill, HB 229. I do not see how defining and regulating wake boats will solve any of the real issues on the lake. Please allow all those who enjoy the lake in a responsible way to continue to do so. I am happy to speak to you at greater length if that would be of any help. Thanks again

Tom Rohrer, MD
Meredith, NH

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:35:20 PM
From: Tim Dunn
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 2:56:44 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: HB229
Importance: Normal

Hello NH Legislators

My name is Tim Dunn. I am a lifelong resident of New Hampshire and I am a Lieutenant on the Windham Fire Department, where I have served for 26 years.

I am writing to voice my concerns about HB 229 and its impact on water recreation. I own a towboat, and my family has been enjoying wake sports on NH lakes for over a decade. Thousands of NH families and visitors use towboats responsibly in our state. To take action against a certain type of boat would unfairly have a terrible impact on these families. I want to make sure that legislators understand that there are tens of thousands of responsible boat operators in the state, and when problems occur it is due to the operator, not due to the type of water craft they are operating. I ask that you not be influenced by misinformed testimony that a certain type of boat is having safety or environmental impacts on our bodies of water. I would ask that legislators focus on boater education and enforcement, rather than isolate a certain type of watercraft.

I ask that you consider this opinion from a NH resident, father, and officer of public safety.

Respectfully

Lt Tim Dunn

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:22:47 PM
From: Greg Blecharczyk
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:46:33 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake boat
Importance: Normal

Dear Resources, Recreation and Development committee members,
Please oppose HB229 "wake boat". This is a recreation (wakeboarding, wake surfing) which is done at a relatively slow speed in open water. Our lakes and waterways are for all to enjoy and have fun on. If everyone adheres to the no "No Wake" zones there should not be any reason to restrict wake boats from enjoying their recreation.

Sincerely,
Greg Blecharczyk
Londonderry, NH

Sent from my iPhone

Archived: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:49:24 PM
From: Joseph Romney
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 2:21:54 PM
To: ~House Resources Recreation and Development
Subject: Wake Boats
Importance: Normal

Hello Committee,

My Name is Joseph Romney. I OPPOSE NH House Bill HB229. I used to work for Goodhue Boat Company and currently work for Weirs Beach Watersports Lessons. I am a charter captain and instructor on a 24ft Axis wake boat. If the committee were to decide on banning wake boats, I, and everyone I work with, would be out of a job. Like I said previously, I used to work for Goodhue Boat Company and am currently working alongside East Coast Flightcraft at Weirs Beach. Both companies sell wake boats, Mastercraft and Malibu, respectively. Banning wake boats would have a catastrophic impact on these two small businesses and many others like them on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Joseph Romney

Bill as
Introduced

HB 229 - AS INTRODUCED

2021 SESSION

21-0264
11/04

HOUSE BILL **229**

AN ACT defining "wake boat."

SPONSORS: Rep. J. MacDonald, Carr. 6; Rep. Marsh, Carr. 8; Rep. Crawford, Carr. 4; Rep. Suzanne Smith, Graf. 8; Rep. Knirk, Carr. 3; Rep. Deshaies, Carr. 6; Rep. Tanner, Sull. 9; Rep. Cordelli, Carr. 4; Rep. Dontonville, Graf. 10; Rep. Ebel, Merr. 5; Rep. Wolf, Merr. 5

COMMITTEE: Resources, Recreation and Development

ANALYSIS

This bill defines "wake boat."

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

HB 229 - AS INTRODUCED

21-0264
11/04

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty One

AN ACT defining "wake boat."

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Paragraph; Boating and Water Safety; Definition; Wake Boat. Amend RSA 270-D:1 by
2 inserting after paragraph XII the following new paragraph:

3 XII-a. "Wake boat" means any boat that is equipped with ballast tanks, bags, compartments,
4 containers, plumbing, or similar devices or systems that are designed to alter or enhance the
5 characteristics of the boat's wake, and is also known as a "ballast boat."

6 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.