

P.O. Box 76A
Warren, VT 05674
January 20, 2014

Senate Natural Resources Committee
Senator Robert Hartwell, Chairman
State House
Montpelier, VT 05633

Dear Senate Natural Resources Committee:

This letter is to encourage you to pass legislation to protect Vermont's lakeshores. In my view such legislation/regulation is needed to help ensure that Vermont's lakes remain biologically healthy and are a continuing high quality recreational resource for lakeshore residents and others who enjoy them.

I have read House Bill 526 and the requirements it contains are just plain common sense when it comes to taking care of our lakeshores. You could ask, "If it's just common sense, why do we need another regulation?" Good question.

Well, in this fast moving, complicated and increasingly crowded world, what is common sense to one may not be recognized as common sense to another. Some folks, though well intentioned, may not know the detrimental cumulative impacts that clearing and grading and installing impervious surfaces may have on lakes. The proposed regulations would minimize such unintended mistakes and those where a lakeshore owner is trying to squeeze too much onto a lakeshore lot that just is not suited for such use.

It's somewhat like farming, where I learned from my dad and experience. We took care of the land and our equipment and as a result both served us well towards making a living.

I have attached some detailed comments from my review of the legislation. I hope it is useful. Please do your best to pass legislation that protects Vermont's lakes and lakeshores.

Sincerely,

Richard Czaplinski

Attachment: Specific Comments on H526 (Shorelands Bill)

cc Senators William Doyle, Ann Cummings, Anthony Pollina