



April 14, 2015

The Honorable Senator Tim Ashe
Chair, Senate Finance

Senate Finance Committee:
Sen. Mark MacDonald, Vice Chair
Sen. Virginia Lyons
Sen. Kevin Mullin
Sen. Claire Ayer
Sen. Richard Westman
Sen. Michael Sirotkin

Senator Ashe:

The Vermont Chapter of the Sierra Club Water Committee supports S.49, An Act Relating to Improving the Quality of State Waters.

We understand the need to responsibly finance this significant clean water legislation. As the Senate Finance committee considers the best method to do so, we hope you will consider sources of funding that have a logical nexus to the sources of pollution in water bodies all throughout the state. These mechanisms include a fee on development of impervious surfaces, per-ton fees on fertilizer, and permitting fees for operations that will further contribute to our state's water quality problems. While we do not oppose other mechanisms, we do strongly support these clearly linked mechanisms.

Thank you again for your attention. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,
The Sierra Club-Vermont Chapter Water Committee
Jonathan Bond, Burlington, co-chair
Annie Mackin, St. Albans, co-chair
Laura Murphy, Montpelier
Chris Miller, Grand Isle
Marina Welch, Burlington

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