

Chairman Bray and Senate Natural Resources and Energy Committee members.

I am unable to testify in person tomorrow morning (4/27) per your published schedule.

I ask that you consider the following statements and the attached testimony in lieu of my personal appearance

I am aware that H 31 has strong support from some citizens associated with Lake Bomoseen and the nearby area who oppose the use of herbicides in that water, for which a permit has been requested. I understand that Mr. Bob Stannard is a strong and vocal opponent of herbicide use in that lake, and is an ardent proponent of H 31, as introduced. I understand that the Vermont Natural Resources Council supports Mr. Stannard and others who have advocated for passage of H 31, as introduced. They are entitled to their position, with which I respectfully disagree.

H 31, AS INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WOULD HAVE BEEN COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO THE COLLECTIVE EFFORTS OF THE STATE OF VERMONT, TOWNS, LANDOWNERS, AND LAKE ORGANIZATIONS, TO RESTORE AND PROTECT OUR PUBLIC WATERS FOR PUBLIC USE.

H 31, AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN MARCH, PROPERLY DELETED THE MORATORIUM, RECOGNIZING THAT IT WAS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE AND UNNECESSARY.

I URGE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY COMMITTEE' TO SUPPORT THE HOUSE VERSION, AND ALLOW NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND OTHER AGENCIES TO CONTINUE THEIR ESSENTIAL WORK OF PROTECTING OUR PUBLIC WATERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAW.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my views on this matter

Respectfully, Albert J. Perry Middlebury