

TO: House Transportation Committee

DATE: May 12, 2025

RE: **H.488 – Municipal Authority to Maintain Trails**

Dear House Transportation Committee -

My name is Chris Bradley, and I am the President & Executive Director of the Vermont Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. If you are not familiar with the Federation, we have existed in Vermont since 1875, and we represent approximately 50 member clubs (mostly Fish & Game Clubs) across Vermont with over 14,000 members.

I am writing this letter to support the current wording of H.488 regarding explicitly providing municipalities the authority to maintain Trails, while not requiring or obligating municipalities to provide trail maintenance or replacement / repair of culverts and bridges.

Trails are commonly used by outdoor enthusiasts of all types in pursuit of their recreation, and providing municipalities with the authority to maintain them is in the best interests of all Vermonters.

We believe that this authority exists currently by default and fully support these clarifications in 19 VSA § 301 and 19 VSA § 303.

Best Regards,



Chris Bradley
President & Executive Director, VTFSC