



How to Become a Lake Advocate

Lakes Congress
May 31, 2019

Kelly Buchanan, Advocacy Coordinator, NH LAKES



1. The impact of an advocate
2. Legislative process
3. Communication with legislators
4. Representative Suzanne Smith and Honorable Chris Christensen
5. Mock hearing



Agenda



You have a strong voice and legislators want to hear it!

You can be a lake advocate whether or not you vote in New Hampshire.

Do you pay taxes in New Hampshire?

Do you visit New Hampshire and spend money here?

Do you care about clean and healthy lakes?





How a Bill Becomes a Law



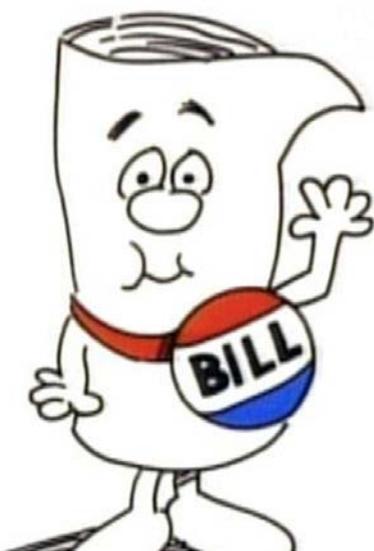


Who are my legislators?





How do I track a bill?





Writing to Legislators:

1. Introduce yourself.
2. Mention where you live or visit.
3. Support/oppose a specific bill.
4. Use a personal story.
5. Include research or data.
6. Be concise and rational.
7. Include your contact information and say thank you!



TIP:
Check your grammar and spelling.



Calling Legislators:

1. Prepare a script or talking points.
2. Introduce yourself.
3. Explain the reason you are calling and be ready to answer questions.
4. Always be courteous and professional. Say thank you!
5. Refer them to NH LAKES if they have questions you can't answer.



TIP:
State representatives don't have office phones. You are calling a personal cell phone or a home phone.



Testifying Before a Committee:

1. Bring copies of your testimony.
2. Sign in.
3. You will be called you forward to speak.
4. Address the entire committee.
5. Return to audience seating when there are no further questions.



TIPS:
Avoid redundancy and reading off a paper.
Be concise – no more than two minutes.



Please Welcome:

Representative Suzanne Smith, Chair of the House Resources,
Recreation and Development Committee

The Honorable Chris Christensen, Former Chair of the House
Resources, Recreation and Development Committee



Mock Committee Hearing





Questions?

Kelly Buchanan, Advocacy Program Coordinator

kbuchanan@nhlakes.org