

NH LAKES Advocacy Alert - Call to ACTION!



February 7, 2015

A PUBLICATION OF NEW HAMPSHIRE LAKES ASSOCIATION

Dear ,

This is a call to ACTION!

We are reaching out to a select group of NH LAKES members and friends. Select, because this callout is only to people like you who we know love their lake and want to protect it from the ongoing threat of aquatic invasive species (AIS). We also know that for you, that favorite lake is and that your lake participates in the NH LAKES Lake Host aquatic invasive species prevention and courtesy boat inspection program.

We also know that there are events conducted at your lake, like fishing tournaments, which threaten to introduce invasive species, particularly if your Lake Host program cannot fully cover these events. **And that is why we are reaching out to you today - because your lake will benefit from a Bill in the NH State legislature that currently hangs in the balance.**

House Bill (HB) 667 was initiated by NH LAKES this legislative session and has been sponsored by Representative Judith Spang. This Bill requires all on-water event permittees (participants in fishing tournaments, boat races, boat parades, etc.) to inspect their boats before launching onto and after departing that waterbody to remove hitchhiking aquatic invasive species. (If you go to the NH General Court website you will find an outdated version of HB 667 - please ignore it. For the current version of HB 667, [click here](#).)

This means that fishing tournaments, many of which begin around 5:00 A.M., would be required to



NH LAKES is the only statewide, member supported 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting New Hampshire lakes and their watersheds.

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Navigating the State Legislature



Find your Legislator!
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Meeting & Hearing
Schedule:

have a designated AIS inspector, responsible for documenting the inspection and cleaning of all participating boats and trailers. This could be accomplished by the event group coordinating with the local Lake Host program, or they could do their own inspections; but, either way, this practice would become required by law. **We strongly believe that this will close a major loophole in our defense against the spread of AIS.**

We need you to take Action! Read the current version of [HB 667](#) and then do at least one (or all) of the following three things:

- Before February 10, call or email the House Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee Chair and committee members and tell them how important this bill is to your lake. Find their contact information [here](#).
- Before February 10, call or email your local State Representative and State Senator and tell them how important the passage of HB 667 is to your lake. You can find your local NH state legislator by clicking [here](#).
- Show up to testify (or just show up and sign in support) at the first hearing of HB 667 scheduled for this coming Tuesday, February 10, at 10:30 A.M. at the Legislative Office Building (LOB) in Concord. The updated details of that hearing schedule can be found [here](#).

NH State Legislators make decisions based largely on what they hear from people like you - people who care for their lake, for our environment, and our economy.

Please take action now - today - if you can.

**To make a difference you must act before
or at the hearing on
Tuesday, February 10, 10:30 A.M.**

Thank you in advance for doing so. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tobrien@nhlakes.org or (603) 226-0299.

On behalf of the New Hampshire Lakes Association,

Tom O'Brien
President and Policy Advocate

NH House: [Click here.](#)
NH Senate: [Click here.](#)

Find a Bill
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work & protect our
lakes!**

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