



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of RESOURCES and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION of PARKS and RECREATION

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March 20, 2012

The Honorable Andrew Renzullo, Chairman
and the House Resource, Recreation and Development Committee
NH State House, Room 306
Concord, NH 03301

Re: SB 330 requiring an independent financial opinion prior to the leasing of any state park property to a private entity.

Dear Chairman Renzullo and Members of the Committee,

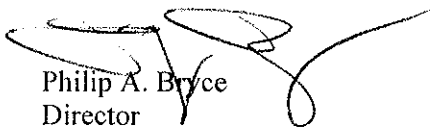
Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on Senate Bill 330 that would require the division of parks and recreation to retain an independent financial consulting firm to conduct a written analysis of a lease proposal involving the leasing of state park property or operations for more than one year to a private entity. The Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED), Division of Parks and Recreation (Division) offers its support for this legislation as now written.

The Division has approximately 48 leases (please refer to the attached list), half of them mountain-top communications leases and most of the remaining leases are for a park building, such as Spruce Camp at Bear Brook and the Ski Museum at Franconia Notch. Many of these leases are for a small portion of the overall Park. Only a small number of the leases are for a majority part of a park or operation, for example, the operation of Mount Sunapee ski area and of Franklin Pierce Homestead. This legislation treats the relative difference in impacts of leases on a state park appropriately by providing for a term greater than ten years, accounting for the extent of the park or park operations affected, and acknowledging the role capital investment plays.

We support that a prospective lessee would be liable for the cost of the analysis provided that the prospective lessee understands that this investment does not create any obligation on the part of the State.

We are available to answer any questions you may have on this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,


Philip A. Bryce
Director

PAB/ttl.03202012

Attachment

C: George M. Bald, Commissioner

COUNT	COMPANY	PARK	EVENT	END
1	Student Conservation Association	Bear Brook	Lease of Camp	9/30/2013
2	UNH Cooperative Extension	Bear Brook	Operate 4H Children's Camps	12/31/2022
3	UNH Outing Club	Bear Brook	Use of cabins	12/31/1997
4	Morris	Bedell Bridge	Agricultural Lease	3/30/2006
5	Windham, Town of	Bureau of Trails	Windham Depot & Storage Building	1/30/2034
6	Conway Scenic Railroad	Bureau of Trails	Windham Depot & Storage Building	3/31/2013
7	Ossipee, Town of	Central Region Office	TERMINATED BY LESSEE] Lease 22 ac for town beach	12/31/2017
8	New England District of Corps of Engineers	Clough	Lease from ACOE	6/30/2028
9	DHHS-Eckerd Alternative	Coleman	[TERMINATED BY LESSEE] Youth camp & treatment ctr	6/30/2010
10	[PENDING]	Franconia Notch SP	Communications[PENDING]	12/31/9999
11	[PENDING]	Franconia Notch SP	Communications[PENDING]	11/12/2012
12	NH #1 Rural Cellular, Inc. of Chicago IL	Franconia Notch SP	Communications	1/31/2016
13	New England Ski Museum	Franconia Notch SP	Manage the NH Ski Museum	4/3/2022
14	Hillsboro, Town of	Franklin Pierce	Operation and maintenance of property	12/31/2013
15	Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce	Hampton Beach	Lease of office space	10/15/2009
16	Mari-Anne Motel	Hampton Beach	Lease of parking spaces	10/31/2013
17	[PENDING]	Miller	Communications[PENDING]	1/1/9999
18	US Department of Transportation FAA	Miller	Communications	9/30/2007
19	MIT Lincoln Laboratory	Miller	Communications	9/30/2011
20	DOT Federal Aviation Administration	Miller	Communications	9/30/2007
21	WEFX - FM	Miller	Communications	1/31/2016
22	Atlantic Aqua Sport	Misc Service Parks	Diver Education	10/15/2002
23	Society for the Protection of NH Forests	Monadnock	Lease of SPNHF land	2/1/2021
24	Jaffrey, Town of	Monadnock	Lease of town land	10/5/2013
25	Citadel Broadcasting WHOM	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2009
26	Citadel Broadcasting WPKQ	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2009
27	County Communications	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2008
28	Federal enforcement	Mt Washington	Communications	9/30/2016
29	Federal Express	Mt Washington	Communications	4/30/2012
30	Federal enforcement	Mt Washington	Communications	9/30/2024
31	Federal enforcement	Mt Washington	Communications	9/30/2024
32	Ossipee Mountain Electronics	Mt Washington	Communications	8/31/2017
33	Verizon Communications	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2009
34	Federal enforcement	Mt Washington	Communications	9/30/2015
35	Yankee Microwave	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2009
36	Pinnacle Towers, Inc.	Mt Washington	Communications	6/30/2005
37	Mount Washington Observatory	Mt Washington	Lease of space	10/1/2014
38	Mt Washington Summit Auto Road	Mt Washington	Use of parking areas; Parks use of Auto Road	6/30/2015
39	Seacoast Science Center	Odiome	[PENDING]Lease of Science Center	
40	White Mountain Attractions	Park Headquarters	Exercise renewal option of lease	11/30/2018
41	Okemo Mountain, Inc.	Park Headquarters	Lease of Mount Sunapee ski area	6/30/2018
42	White Mountain Attractions	Park Headquarters	Lease of Visitor Center	11/30/2013
43	[PENDING]	South Region	Communications[PENDING]	1/1/9999
44	NEHSA New England Handicapped Sports As	South Region	Adaptive sports programs	3/31/2027
45	US Cellular	South Region	Communications	6/30/2010
46	Verizon	South Region	Communications	10/31/2010
47	SPNHF	Umbagog State Park	Lease of SPNHF campsites	6/30/2020
48	Trust for Public Lands	Umbagog State Park	Manage campsites	12/31/1999