

Dear Honorable Chair and Members of the Committee,

First of all, thank you for all the time and energy you extend to serve the people of New Hampshire.

I am writing in support of HB246. My wife and I have received funding from the Carrol County Climate Resilience grant over the last two years. These grant funds have been invaluable to us as we've been growing our farm operation.

It can be difficult to create a successful business from scratch in the farming industry. I believe that having farms that provide for local communities is essential to continuing the vibrancy of New Hampshire. With the grants we received, we have been able to build greenhouses, install a pellet stove in our flower studio/seedling starting room, install drip irrigation lines and plant perennial crops. All of these things have enabled us to adapt to challenging and varying weather conditions.

Our farm is growing and providing a greater benefit to our town and the surrounding towns thanks to the support of this funding. I hope New Hampshire farmers continue to be able to access these grants that will enable them to adapt, expand and thrive, providing countless benefits to our granite state communities. I encourage you to support this bill and I welcome you to come visit our farm in Sandwich, NH to see how truly impactful this program has been for us. I would suggest coming when it's a bit warmer...

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Hodges', with a stylized, cursive script.

Richard Hodges
(603) 284-6446