

HB 644 (2025) – Hearing date: 2025-02-05 14:00, LOB Room 305–307

Resources Committee – Hearing testimony of Michael Norman, Ph.D.

Qualifications - Recreational UAS operator. Ph.D. in Complexity Science, which focuses on the design and operation of decentralized complex systems. Deep study of these types of systems has produced mountains of evidence that they are most productive when self-organized rather than centrally controlled, and the agent-based use of Class G Uncontrolled Airspace does not appear to present an exception to these findings.

Goal - Consistent with our State's core values, the goal of this testimony is to support the restoration of freedom for New Hampshire residents to launch and recover small UAS in public good State Park Class G airspace.

Discussion - The current restrictions on small UAS operation over state parks impedes both recreational and commercial opportunities.

Existing Federal Protections

The FAA already maintains comprehensive safety regulations for drone operations, including:

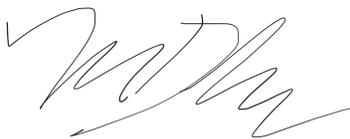
- A strict 400-foot altitude limit above ground level
- Restrictions on flying over people and moving vehicles
- Required distance from clouds and visibility requirements
- Special provisions for flying near structures

Economic and Creative Impact

Restricting drone flights over state parks stifles:

- Commercial photography and videography opportunities
- Scientific research and environmental monitoring
- Real estate and tourism promotion
- Educational activities

Thank you,



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