

February 11, 2025

The Hon. Kenneth Weyler, Chair
House Finance Committee
Legislative Office Building, Room: 210-211
Concord, NH 03301

Re: HB 619, an act making an appropriation to the solid waste management fund.

Dear Chairman Weyler and Honorable Committee Members,

Conservation Law Foundation (“CLF”) appreciates the opportunity to comment on HB 619, which appropriates funds to the solid waste management fund. CLF is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting public health and the environment and building healthy communities in New Hampshire and throughout New England. **We strongly support HB 619 and urge the Committee to vote *ought to pass*.**

HB 619 appropriates \$1,000,000 for the 2025-2027 biennium to the solid waste management fund, with 50% allocated for projects aimed at reducing and diverting food and organic waste.

New Hampshire’s solid waste management funding has historically been insufficient, and securing sustainable funding is essential to achieving New Hampshire’s solid waste diversion goals—a 25% reduction in waste disposal by 2030 and 45% by 2050.¹ Food scraps make up about 24% of landfill waste, by EPA estimates.²

Food waste diversion can yield significant cost savings for municipalities by reducing tipping fees and supporting composting infrastructure, thus preserving landfill capacity.

HB 619’s targeted funding would provide direct, practical benefits—helping an independent food pantry buy that extra cooler or allowing a local farm to expand its composting operations. Reducing food waste requires strategic investments, and this bill delivers those necessary resources.

For these reasons, CLF urges the Committee to support HB 619, and vote *ought to pass*.

¹ [Section 149-M:2 Solid Waste Disposal Reduction Goal. \(state.nh.us\)](https://www.state.nh.us/section-149-m-2-solid-waste-disposal-reduction-goal).

² EPA, Facts and Figures about Materials, Waste and Recycling, available at <https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling/national-overview-facts-and-figures-materials#Landfilling>.



Sincerely,

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