



FALLING  
WATERS  
FOREST LLC

January 10, 2026

Representative Robert Harb, Chairman  
NH House of Representatives  
Resources, Recreation, and Development Committee  
Room 228, Granite Place  
Concord, NH 03301

RE: House Bill 1440

Submitted electronically

Honorable Chairman Harb:

My wife and I have owned family forest land in Cheshire County for decades. We have recently purchased an additional medium sized forest land parcel in Coos County. Most of this land will remain in active forestry. We take great pride in being a small part of the timber economy in New Hampshire, just as our forefathers did going back to 1937 when the first family purchase took place.

At our scale it is not easy to clear a profit owning forest land. The last thing we need is to have to contend with increasing regulation imposed by the state. Our concern is that House Bill 1440 does exactly that: it imposes undue regulation on the land owner. It also asks more of an already financially strapped state government. And the purpose of the bill is not clear. It almost seems as if the point is to punish any land owner who might use a carbon sale as a tool to help keep their forest land economically viable.

Let me give an example. Our Coos County land will not produce a major timber harvest for at least 20 years because of the cutting history prior to our ownership. Yet the carrying costs remain substantial: taxes, insurance, road repair, culvert upsizing, timber stand improvement, invasives remediation, the list goes on. If we participate in a 40 year carbon sale on, say, 15% of the land, we would be able to cover most of these costs. This would allow us to keep the land in forestry, and of course, keep it open to the public, which is an added bonus. In this sense, the carbon sale is just one of several tools in the toolbox to keep our forest land an active part of the forestry economy.

As far as the specific requirements of HB1440, as long term forest land owners, we have management plans in place, and we are always working to improve conditions for wildlife. But to have the state peering over our shoulders in the exercising of our private property rights seems like a stretch that is so far out of the realm of "live free or die".

Please consider the wellbeing of the family forest land owner and do not pass HB1440.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert E. King", written over a horizontal line.

Robert E. King, Manager  
Falling Waters Forest LLC

cc by email to:

Rep. Michael Oullet  
Rep. Arnold Davis  
Rep. James Tierney  
Rep. Sean Durkin  
Senator David Rochefort