



Statement on HB1602

January 20, 2026

RE: The Battery Network Testimony to the New Hampshire House Environment and Agriculture Committee regarding HB1602 *Creating a safe battery recycling stewardship program.*

Dear Chair Aron, Vice Chair Barbour and Members of the Environment and Agriculture Committee,

I am testifying on behalf of The Battery Network, the leading non-profit battery stewardship organization founded in 1994 to ensure the proper end-of-life management of batteries throughout the U.S.

The Battery Network has successfully operated a voluntary portable, rechargeable battery collection and recycling program in New Hampshire since 1996. This program is supported by 250-plus battery and battery-powered product manufacturers who voluntarily finance our work. The Battery Network has collected more than 100,000 pounds of batteries over the last 3 years in New Hampshire.

Additionally, we've applied lessons learned from our decades of experience to support the growing high energy battery technology, such as those powering e-bikes and outdoor power equipment. If HB1602 is passed, we will expand our current voluntary efforts to increase collection opportunities throughout all of New Hampshire including the collection of lithium-ion batteries above 300 watt hours.

While The Battery Network does not support or oppose legislative initiatives nor do we lobby, we do advocate solely based on our mission – to optimize battery collections. Based on our extensive experience and expertise in collecting batteries, HB1602 incorporates the best practices we view as necessary for laying the groundwork for a successful battery collection and recycling program.

The Battery Network views the following best practices as essential to a successful battery collection and recycling program:

- Inclusion of all battery chemistries (i.e. primary and rechargeable) with as few carve-outs as possible
- While every organization that sells batteries should be encouraged to serve as a collection site, no organization should be required to collect
- All Battery Stewardship Organizations must be required to provide annual safety training to all collection sites to ensure the safe handling of batteries
- All entities intending to collect batteries under the law must operate under an approved plan



The Battery Network's mission – across ALL sectors – is to collect and recycle batteries safely and responsibly. It is important that end of life battery recycling and collection programs and legislation are carefully crafted to ensure that the management of batteries is good for the environment and public safety.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this statement.

Todd J. Ellis
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