



TOWN OF LITCHFIELD

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January 14, 2026

The Honorable Representative Gregory Hill, Chairman
and Members of the House Legislative Administration Committee

Re: House Bill HB 1359 - Relative to Municipal Association

Dear Chairman Hill and Committee Members,


On behalf of the Litchfield Board of Selectmen, we ask that you not support HB 1359. The Town of Litchfield is currently a member of the New Hampshire Municipal Association and we value the many benefits offered by the association. These benefits include annual workshops on a wide variety of topics supporting both elected and appointed positions, training on the best practices and principles of government finance, and advocacy carrying out member-adopted policy positions. NHMA is a non-profit, non-partisan association working to strengthen New Hampshire cities and towns and their ability to serve their residents.

The Town of Litchfield has an official budget committee that reviews and analyzes our proposed budgets on behalf of our residents as required by NH RSA 32:16. To require a warrant article on the inclusion of any membership dues paid to any organization that provides advocacy on behalf of the Town or our staff would be inefficient and complex.

Our residents would expect us to provide insight when a proposed bill may unintentionally cause significant disruption to our local policies. NHMA assists its member towns and cities in not only tracking legislation but providing testimony on municipally-related legislation. HB 1359 also requires this service to be offered to municipalities not paying membership dues, which seems unreasonable to those financially supporting these activities.

We thank you for your time and urge you and your committee members to not support HB 1359.

Sincerely,


John Brunelle
Board of Selectmen, Chairman


Kim Kleiner
Town Administrator

CC: Board of Selectmen