



**TESTIMONY OF THE NEW ENGLAND CONNECTIVITY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION, INC. REGARDING HB 1291**

January 30, 2026

Chairman Roy, Vice Chairman Rhodes, and distinguished Members of the House Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee,

On behalf of the New England Connectivity and Telecommunications Association (NECTA), we appreciate the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 1291, *An Act criminalizing the use of small unmanned aircraft systems for the purposes of flying over critical infrastructure and events without authorization*. Throughout New England, NECTA members provide state-of-the-art Internet, video, voice, and wireless offerings as well as cutting-edge products, services, and emerging technologies. NECTA members operating in New Hampshire include Breezeline, Charter Communications, and Comcast. Together, our members service approximately 485,000 customers and offer their services to more than 695,000 locations in 185 New Hampshire communities.

HB 1291 would create criminal penalties for operating a small Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), commonly known as a drone, over a public gathering or over critical infrastructure. While HB 1291 defines the term “critical infrastructure”, the definition departs from the term already defined in RSA 319-D:1, in lieu of a definition that has been adopted in other jurisdictions. For purposes of including the full range of facilities found in electric and communications infrastructure, NECTA respectfully requests that should the Committee recommend HB 1291 ought to pass, that the Committee incorporate the definition of critical infrastructure in RSA 319-D:1 or adopt a more expansive definition to ensure that public utilities and communications services infrastructure is included in the bill.

We thank you for this testimony. Please don’t hesitate to contact us should you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

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