



Frank Edelblut
Commissioner

Christine M. Brennan
Deputy Commissioner

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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May 19, 2023

Ken Gallagher, Principal Planner
NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs
Office of Planning and Development
100 North Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

Mount Washington is a popular landmark in New Hampshire that has been known to attract significant tourism and recreation in the Granite State. The Mt. Washington name is commonplace in New England among every generation of residents, including our youth who frequently visit the popular attraction.

Changing the name of such a well-known peak in the northeast, which has held the title of Mt. Washington since 1874, is not in the best interest of the state and its tourists that have traveled to the top of the mountain for more than 150 years. Mt. Washington not only honors a Founding Father, George Washington, but is one of more than a dozen summits within the Presidential Range – all of which are named after U.S. presidents such as Franklin Pierce, Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams and John Quincy Adams.

I urge the U.S. Board of Geographic Names to reject the proposal to change the title of such an infamous mountain – the highest in New Hampshire – that pays tribute to the first president of the United States, a military general and grand hero.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Edelblut".

Frank Edelblut
Commissioner of Education