

Cummings, Valerie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2020 1:44 PM
To: HouseTransportationCommittee@leg.state.nh.us
Cc: Haynes, William; Quinn, Robert; Sheehan, Victoria; FGC: Director
Subject: HBs 1427, 1438, 1156 & 1688

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To The Committee, et al-
2020

January 27,

As you are doubtless aware, the use of our villages and landscape here in Coos County by OHRV enthusiasts is raising considerable issues. Many long-term homeowners are now being subjected to unexpected and, for some, unbearable duress in what was once their refuge. Real estate values have diminished for some, and municipal regulations intended to protect these citizen-taxpayers, for all purposes ignored.

The idea that **HB 1438** would allow all state roads to be used by these vehicles driven by unlicensed youngsters, and without any consideration of the inhabitants and abutters, is the nuttiest most irresponsible proposal I've heard come out of Concord in a long time! While we may be a Dylan State, there is no excuse for rolling over home rule to the extent that it affects the daily lives of the inhabitants on this level.

I have also been told by Commissioner Haynes at the DOT that they, DOS and F&G are opposed to this bill. I hope the committee will defer to these professionals who are hired for their knowledge and, one hopes, good sense!

I would also like to see **HB 1156** fail as it apparently duplicates **HB 660** passed last year, but as yet unfunded. Funding should be found and a serious discussion should be held about removing OHRV from state roads. These are **OFF ROAD VEHICLES**. They are not designed for pavement and residential areas. They are hazard on the roads and a tragic accident waiting to happen.

At this time I support **HB 1688**. As long as these vehicles are allowed on state roads they should be subject to the same traffic laws and fines (AND licensure!) that other vehicles are. The idea that Fish and Game is the only regulatory agency they are subject to makes no sense at all.

I support **HB 1427** which will deter the legislature from making exceptions for certain roads (Back Lake Rd. in Pittsburg and Rte 114 in Henniker) without consideration of the residents or any permitting process by DOT and DOS.

The **ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM** is climate change. The state's unrelenting support for motorized recreation in the face of the global meltdown, is quite short-sighted. Alternatives are available and our state leaders should be encouraging us all to take care of ourselves and this fine planet by making use of them.

