



New England Water Environment Association, Inc.
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March 22, 2023

The Honorable David A. Bennett
House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
State House
Providence, RI 02903
Send written testimony to: HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov

Re: For New England Water Environment Association; 2023 House Bill 5862; For

Dear Chairperson Bennett and Members of the Committee:

The New England Water Environment Association (NEWEA) respectfully submits this letter to express its support of 2023 House Bill 5862. NEWEA, and wastewater treatment facilities throughout the state and country, have experienced many environmental and financial hardships due to the improper disposal of non-flushable wipes. While the improper disposal of non-flushable wipes is most commonly due to improper labeling as "flushable", the financial and environmental impacts from the improper disposal of non-flushable wipes are inevitably born by the ratepayers and residents, rather than the producers and retailers. We support the legislature in taking the first necessary steps of creating product labeling requirements and enforcement authority to prevent improper disposal of non-flushable wipes.

Thank you for taking the time to consider the NEWEA's position on H5862.

Sincerely,

Robert Fisher, NEWEA President

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A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Mary M. Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mary" and the last name "Barry" being the most prominent parts.

Mary Barry, NEWEA Executive Director