

EXHIBIT 2
DATE 02/01/07
HB 400

Granite Conservation District

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February 1, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Members of the House Agriculture Committee:

My name is Chris Burgmeier. I have been a supervisor with the Granite CD since 1997. My district and all of the CDs across the state are strong proponents of HB 400. We urge you give it a do pass.

Many of you are likely familiar with the good work your local CD does but you may not be as familiar with how each CD Board is set up and all of the responsibilities of CD supervisors.

With your permission, I would like to go through a couple of these items first so you can better understand the need for this bill.

Under our current laws, there are basically three kinds of CD supervisors:

- 1) elected
- 2) urban
- 3) associate

The 5 elected supervisors serve staggered terms; up to two urban supervisors can be appointed by the incorporated municipalities within the boundaries of the CD; and associate supervisors who serve as advisors to the district are selected and appointed by the sitting board.

Also under current state law, one seat on Planning Boards is to be filled by a Conservation District Supervisor. However, the way it is written right now, associate supervisors are not allowed to serve in that capacity. HB 400 will change that and allow associate members to represent the CD on Planning Boards.

The workload of conservation districts has been increasing, especially in the last 15 years and allowing associate supervisors to serve in this capacity is a needed change to accommodate our burgeoning workload.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Chris Burgmeier
Supervisor, Granite CD