

Chris O'Brien

From: halgibson1@verizon.net
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 12:54 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: HR6256

Harold T Gibson

Subject: Oppose H6256 - Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. I am lifelong Rhode Islander and have been involved in boating on Narragansett Bay all of my life. The boating/fishing community contribute millions of dollars to the Rhode Island economy, recreational fishing alone contributes \$419 million. This tax is not a tax on the rich! Boating IS and should be an affordable means of recreation for the the average Rhode Islander.

Reinstating a tax on boats will hurt everyday Rhode Islanders by pricing us out of access to our waters, driving both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threatening local jobs and negatively impacting our economy.

We do not have a revenue problem! We have a spending problem! How is it that states of comparable size (New Hampshire and Delaware) can operate at significantly less (billions) than Rhode Island?

Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry.

Sincerely,
Harold T Gibson
Warwick/East Greenwich, RI