

Chris O'Brien

---

**From:** Gauvin, Kyle <kgauvin647@g.rwu.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:39 AM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** STRONG OPPOSITION TO H6256

[HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov](mailto:HouseFinance@rilegislature.gov)

**Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats**

**Dear House Finance Committee,**

**As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.**

**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.**

**One of the last pleasures of living in this over taxed and often underserved state is to get out on the water and forget the hellscape of Rhode Island politics. At this time I can barely afford to do so and often I am sitting on land waiting for my ancient but still serviceable boat to be repaired just so I can maybe get out on the water a few times a year to clam and fish and enjoy time experiencing the best resource Rhode Island has to offer the ocean.**

**Making it harder for the common man to enjoy this experience is probably not what you want to do but if this bill passes it is exactly what it will do. Impacting the marina's small engine repair mechanics and the ancillary businesses that support them as well as the local restaurants and locations that are visited by boat more than by car. I may not drive my truck from Coventry over to Bristol but I will take my small boat and motor over to Bristol just to get bagels at Bristol bagel or visit the restaurants on Thames or in Jamestown. Not to mention the sales tax free status of boats allows hundreds of extra sales of boats to occur in RI rather than MA or CT even though the inventory is sometimes better in those states. This would dramatically reduce sales for many yacht brokers in RI and therefore lower their revenue and end up costing RI more than the sales taxes would potentially make. This would make this option the worst financial decision for the state never mind one that is so unpopular it would risk re-election chances.**

**Don't be the typical politician Rhode Islanders are always bemoaning and make waves of change only to watch your waves wash away the benefits and strategic advantages not having these two specific taxes already affords us. Rhode Islanders didn't burn down the Gaspee to have politicians re tax us for minimal if any gain for the state. Ridiculous.**

**Sincerely,**

**Kyle Gauvin**

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