

Chris O'Brien

From: Phil Capaldi <capaldi.phil@jamestownschoools.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 9:16 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Sink the Tax

Dear House Finance Committee,

I'm a school teacher. I oppose the H6256.

Financially, I'm not running with those independently wealthy. Outside of getting a third job, this bill would be an undue burden for me.

I have a modest boat - this is going to hurt those recreational boaters that have called the OCEAN STATE their home.

Why are we adding financial hurdles for those that would like to recreate on our waters?

Sincerely,
Phil Capaldi
Saunderstown RI 02874

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Chris O'Brien

From: Jay Crisfield <jaymongy@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 9:39 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 Tax on RI Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater I oppose bill H6256 creating a sales and property tax on boats in Rhode Island. This bill would hurt our economy and working families and businesses that rely on recreational boating.

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

Sincerely,
James Crisfield
228 King Charles Dr
Portsmouth, RI 02871

Chris O'Brien

From: meliss381 <meliss381@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 3:08 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Vote no Bill H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island Boater, I strongly oppose Bill H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will cause financial harm to boaters and Marine based businesses. Cost of gas, maintenance, repairs, and storage has also risen. We do not need additional financial distress.

Please vote no on Bill H6256.

Best,
Melissa Chimento
Westerly, RI
Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Shane Cooper <shane@theroycenewport.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 6:37 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Rhode Island House Bill No. 6256, which proposes the repeal of the current sales tax exemption for boat purchases and the introduction of an annual property tax on boats owned in the state. This legislation poses a significant threat to our businesses, workforce, and the thousands of recreational boaters who call Rhode Island their home port.

The implications of this bill are profound and far-reaching. Imposing a sales tax on boat purchases will discourage potential buyers and adversely affect our marine industry, which has thrived for decades thanks to favorable tax policies. The introduction of an annual property tax on boats is unprecedented and would create an additional financial burden for boat owners. Many individuals and families may reconsider their decision to own a boat or even leave the state altogether, leading to a decline in our local economy.

Rhode Island has earned its reputation as a premier boating destination largely because of its supportive tax environment. The marine industry has flourished over the past forty years, supporting more than 13,000 jobs and contributing significantly to the state's economy. Our boatyards, marinas, and related businesses rely heavily on the current tax exemptions to maintain competitive pricing and attract new customers. The repeal of these exemptions would jeopardize their livelihoods and undermine the economic stability of our communities.

Furthermore, the recreational boating industry is not just a source of revenue; it fosters tourism, drives local businesses, and enhances the quality of life for Rhode Islanders. The influx of boaters and tourists contributes to the vitality of our coastal towns, generating income for restaurants, shops, and various service providers. By taxing boat ownership and purchases, we risk alienating these visitors and stifling the growth of an industry that has proven resilient and beneficial to our state.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the implications of House Bill No. 6256 on our marine industry and the broader Rhode Island economy. The potential negative consequences of this legislation far outweigh any perceived benefits. I implore you to protect our state's reputation as a boating haven and to maintain the favorable conditions that have allowed our marine industry to thrive for so long.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Chris O'Brien

From: Shane Cooper <scooper2241@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 6:10 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Rhode Island House Bill No. 6256, which proposes the repeal of the current sales tax exemption for boat purchases and the introduction of an annual property tax on boats owned in the state. This legislation poses a significant threat to our businesses, workforce, and the thousands of recreational boaters who call Rhode Island their home port.

The implications of this bill are profound and far-reaching. Imposing a sales tax on boat purchases will discourage potential buyers and adversely affect our marine industry, which has thrived for decades thanks to favorable tax policies. The introduction of an annual property tax on boats is unprecedented and would create an additional financial burden for boat owners. Many individuals and families may reconsider their decision to own a boat or even leave the state altogether, leading to a decline in our local economy.

Rhode Island has earned its reputation as a premier boating destination largely because of its supportive tax environment. The marine industry has flourished over the past forty years, supporting more than 13,000 jobs and contributing significantly to the state's economy. Our boatyards, marinas, and related businesses rely heavily on the current tax exemptions to maintain competitive pricing and attract new customers. The repeal of these exemptions would jeopardize their livelihoods and undermine the economic stability of our communities.

Furthermore, the recreational boating industry is not just a source of revenue; it fosters tourism, drives local businesses, and enhances the quality of life for Rhode Islanders. The influx of boaters and tourists contributes to the vitality of our coastal towns, generating income for restaurants, shops, and various service providers. By taxing boat ownership and purchases, we risk alienating these visitors and stifling the growth of an industry that has proven resilient and beneficial to our state.

In conclusion, I urge you to reconsider the implications of House Bill No. 6256 on our marine industry and the broader Rhode Island economy. The potential negative consequences of this legislation far outweigh any perceived benefits. I implore you to protect our state's reputation as a boating haven and to maintain the favorable conditions that have allowed our marine industry to thrive for so long.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Shane Cooper

Chris O'Brien

From: Clifford Curtis <clifford.curtis@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:51 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat Tax
Attachments: S.gif

but please let your voice be heard!

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.
Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Cliff Curtis
Portsmouth

Sent from my iPad

Chris O'Brien

From: Valerie Cabral <valerie_cabral@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:14 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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 all 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.

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

Sincerely,

Valerie Cabral
West Greenwich & North Kingstown

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: Mike Carnevale <mvcarnevale@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 9:07 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,

Name
Mike carnevale

Cumberland ri

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Rebekah Cottle <bekahburke89@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 8:13 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Please vote NO on H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Rebekah Cottle
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Dan Caluori <dcaluori@usa.net>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 7:43 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: 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.

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

Sincerely,

--dan
Providence

Chris O'Brien

From: Bruce Cox <bhcoxri@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:51 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat tax is a bad idea.

When the taxes on boat sales were repealed by Governor Sundlun he revitalized the Rhode Island marine industry and gave us a leg up on Connecticut and Massachusetts. If they are reinstated or worse, enhanced there will be a great loss to Rhode Island in the form of jobs and the ancillary businesses that benefit from this active industry. The Federal Government chased the aluminum boat building business out of the country with the luxury tax; don't do the same to the Rhode Island boating industry.

Bruce H, Cox

Chris O'Brien

From: MICHELE CASEY <mm7055@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:50 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: House Finance Committee

Dear House Finance Committee, As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy. Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry. Sincerely,

Michele Casey

Chris O'Brien

From: Bruce Cox <bhcoxri@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:57 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: House Bill H6256 Opposed

Proposed bill H6256 would reinstate a sales and annual property tax on boats in Rhode Island. Reinstating this tax would reverse years of growth in our state economy and hurt the working families and businesses that rely on recreational boating. This would result in boats leaving the state, spending would decline. When the taxes on boat sales were repealed by Governor Sundlun he revitalized the Rhode Island marine industry and gave us a leg up on Connecticut and Massachusetts. If they are reinstated or worse, enhanced there will be a great loss to Rhode Island in the form of jobs and the ancillary businesses that benefit from this active industry. The Federal Government chased the aluminum boat building business out of the country with the luxury tax; don't do the same to the Rhode Island boating industry. Vote No on this bill.

Bruce H, Cox
Tiverton Rhode Island

Chris O'Brien

From: griffin cottle <griffin.cottle@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:06 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: NO on H6256

We finally got a next generation of boaters starting to get on the water and the first thing that state wants to do is tax them back out of it.

No to the Boat Tax.

Chris O'Brien

From: Adam Clay <adclay@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 7:59 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No Taxes on Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,

Adam Clay
Resident of Sharon, MA
Long-time owner of boats kept in East Greenwich, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Jillian Couchon <jillian.couchon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 7:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Bill H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater I strongly oppose H6256. My boyfriend is a charter fisherman, and reinstating a boat tax will directly negatively impact the financial security of my family in RI, along with thousands of other families who rely on boating-related industries in the state of RI.

Please vote NO on H6256.

Sincerely,
Jillian Couchon
South Kingstown, RI
Lifelong Resident of Rhode Island

Chris O'Brien

From: David Crawley <dmc.dmca@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:46 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: NO on H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,

Joanne Crawley
Bristol

Chris O'Brien

From: David Crawley <dmc.dmca@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:44 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No on boat tax!

I am against the boat tax as it would cause me to relocate my boat to an out of state marina. I am retired and on social security with a fixed budget so would not be able to enjoy boating in RI.

Chris O'Brien

From: cavanaghbob@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:38 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: RI Already Taxing the Boating Public!

Dear House Finance Committee, As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. Boaters already are required to pay; fees and taxes every year or two to register a boat and trailer, to separately register an outboard motor, for a fishing license, taxes on fishing tackle, taxes on marina fuel, taxes when buying updated flares and fire extinguishers every few years, for safety horns, whistles and personal floatation devises, etc.

Many people use their boats to catch fish, clams, crabs for food! It is akin to taxing home gardeners for growing vegetables. Maybe that will be next!!!! Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy. Please vote NO on H6256. Boating is not a rich man's luxury! Sincerely, Robert S Cavanagh
South Kingstown

Chris O'Brien

From: Daniel Cromie <danielcromie@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:13 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed Bill H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Dan Cromie
Providence

Chris O'Brien

From: Mike Collins <bigeye2na@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:14 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: oppose h6256-dont tax boats

DEAR HOUSE FIANCE, COMMITTEE

AS A RHODE ISLAND RESIDENT, I STRONGLY OPPOSE H 6256. REINSTATING A TAX ON BOATS WILL HURT EVERYDAY RHODE ISLANDERS BY PRICING US OUT OF ACCESS TO OUR WATERS , DRIVING BOTH BOATERS SND MARINE TRADES AND BUSINESSES OUT OF STATE . THREATENING LOCAL JOBS AND IMPACTING OUR ECONOMY . PLEASE VOTE NO ON H6256

MICHAEL COLLINS
SOUTH KINGSTOWN

Chris O'Brien

From: Kimberly Cranson <kimberlylynncranson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:24 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proud Boat owner in RI

As a member in the sailing community in RI, I strongly urge the house to stop the vote on taxes. Our state thrives on the boating industry... it was be a devastating impact.

Very concerned citizen.

Kim Matthews

Chris O'Brien

From: Cheryl Colarusso <ccolarusso119129@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:08 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: House Bill 6256

To Whom It May Concern,

We are writing to voice our dissatisfaction over the introduction of house Bill 6256. As retired RI residents & small craft owners we absolutely oppose this bill.

We live on a fixed income of pension funds and social security benefits that the state of RI already taxes. The one thing we love to do in the summer is spend time on our small boat. This tax would add yet 1 more expense to our already tight monthly budget.

We truly hope you reconsider this bill and the effect it will have on not only fixed income households but the entire fishing industry & boating community.

Thank you for hearing us out.

Michael & Cheryl Colarusso

Chris O'Brien

From: eric cordis <teffylou2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:59 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No to boat tax

The implementation of a boat tax on ri boats will have an adverse effect on ri business and jobs in this state

Please shoot this down

Eric Cordis

Chris O'Brien

From: eric cordis <teffylou2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:03 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Re: No to boat tax h6256

The implementation of a boat tax on ri boats will have an adverse effect on ri business and jobs in this state. Something that we are good at and good people in this state rely on to support their families

Please shoot this down

Eric Cordis
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Mark Castelli <castelli17@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:13 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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. Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry. Sincerely, [Your Name] [Your Town]

Chris O'Brien

From: John Curzake <john.curzake@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 3:47 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,

John Curzake

South Kingstown

Chris O'Brien

From: Charles Crealese <ccrease@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 2:29 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 and Protect Rhode Island's Marine Economy

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Pat Crawford <patcrawfordpc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:29 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed Bill H6256 - NO

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Patricia Ann Crawford
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: k cav <mjsmommie1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:28 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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 all 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.

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

Sincerely,
Mike Cavros

Chris O'Brien

From: Kim Cavros <kcavros2014@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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 all 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.

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

Sincerely,
Kim Cavros
401-300-9662

Chris O'Brien

From: john coghlin <john.coghlin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:23 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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 all 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.

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

Sincerely,

John H. Coghlin
North Kingstown, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Matthew Crook <mccrook1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:22 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: House Bill 6256
Attachments: Boat Tax Bill H6256.pdf

I, Matthew C Crook, of 165 Gravelly Hill Road, Wakefield, RI 02879 do not support this bill to tax boats.

Matthew C Crook

Chris O'Brien

From: Martha Colella <marthacolella@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:53 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Martha Colella
Tiverton, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Chris Cannon <ccannon160@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 2:17 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Keep boat sales tax free

Please do not chance the sales tax free status re boat sales in RI as the aftermarket and service sales that takes place on boat usage and winter storage provide excellent tax revenue along with high levels of employment to many RI residences.

Thank you,

Chris Cannon
845 E Shore Rd
Jamestown RI 02835

Chris O'Brien

From: kevin clarke <rimsurveyndt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 2:05 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No taxes on Boats

Taxes on boats will really hurt the family's of so many in the boating industry, places say no to sales tax and ownership tax in Rhode Island.

**Kevin Clarke
R.I. Marine Survey
52 Child Street
Portsmouth RI, 02871
401-595-2516**

Captain 100-ton Master

ABYC, Standards Certified

ABYC, Marine Systems Certified

SNT-TC-IA, Trained UT Level II

SNAME, Since 2003

Thermal Imaging level II

**rimsurveyndt@gmail.com
www.rimarinesurvey.com**

Chris O'Brien

From: Steven Crocker <steven.e.crocker@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Steven Crocker
32 Loring Rd, Bristol, RI 02809

Chris O'Brien

From: Marshall Calder <marshall.calder@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:32 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island resident, boater, and voter, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Marshall Calder
Middletown, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Archie Contreras <archie@sytitania.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:30 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No to boat tax

No to boat tax!

If you implement a boat tax you will further sink the boat trade skills in the state of Rhode Island! Drive boat and yacht sales away from the state. Do no service to the states deep maritime history and what it has brought to the great state of Rhode Island! This is coming from a Texas transplant that has moved her for those and many other reasons to your fair state, let's keep it such!

Archie Contreras

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Alexander Clegg <alexanderclegg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:29 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 and Protect Rhode Island's Marine Economy

Hello,

I am writing to express my wishes to oppose this bill, Rhode Island is aptly named the "Ocean State", and we must do all we can to keep boating accessible to Rhode Islanders. There are plenty of places to apply taxes, but to change one that has been in place almost the entirety of my life (I am 41) would be disappointing.

I own two vessels in RI now, and all of my support in way of engine work, cushions, sails etc goes to local RI businesses. I would hate to see that change and have to take my business out of the state, or sell my boats entirely.

Thank you for your time

Alexander Clegg
28 Berkeley Road
Warwick RI 02818

Chris O'Brien

From: castro1600@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:13 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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. Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry.

Sincerely,
Vasco Castro III
Bristol

Chris O'Brien

From: Clark Carr <hdcarr1@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:13 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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.
Please+vote+NO+on+H6256.+Don't+sink+Rhode+Island's+marine+industry. Sincerely, [Your+Name] [Your+Town]

Chris O'Brien

From: Andrew Crowshaw <andrew@nicori.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:08 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Brian C. Newberry
Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater for 30 + years, 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.

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

Cut spending / Don't raise more fees and taxes !!

*Sincerely,
Andrew F. Crowshaw
North Smithfield RI*

Boating in RI for 35 years

Andrew F. Crowshaw
Narragansett Improvement Company
223 Allens Avenue
Providence, Rhode Island 02903
P: 401-331-7420 Fax 401-351-6444
C: 401-996-4479



Chris O'Brien

From: Alan Caruolo <alan@providencelacquer.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:03 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Alan Caruolo
Account Manager
Providence Lacquer & Supply Center, Inc.
1155 Park Avenue
Cranston, RI 02910
Cell (401)639-8472
Office (401)943-1700

Chris O'Brien

From: Amanda Caito <alcaito@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:21 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 and Protect Rhode Island's Marine Economy

Good afternoon-

As a lifelong Rhode Islander and boater, members of Bristol Yacht Club and East Greenwich Yacht Club, whose family has owned and owns marine businesses (Caito's, Sullivan Marine, etc.), I write to you in strong opposition of H6256.

Each day, being a Rhode Islander becomes more challenging and unbearable. If not tax policies and being misrepresented by our government, it's our freedoms that are at risk.

It's evident that the introduction of bill H6256 has had no critical thinking or strategy developed to identify it's impact- both good or bad. Made more evident by Rep. John Lombardi speaking on the Matt Allen show noting that he nor any of his constituents would be impacted as they don't own boats. With such an elementary level thought process representing the people and trades of our State, we are slowly becoming the furthest thing from the "Ocean State" and a desirable place to live and visit. This bill has a direct negative impact on the economy, tourism, the Marine Trade, small businesses, and RI families. The revenue in which might be generated would be subsequently lost due to the impact on the economy or costs to maintain new laws that are implemented due to the bill.

In opposition,
Amanda (Caito) Sullivan

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Matthew Cook <matthew.cook468@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:45 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose House Bill H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a lifelong Rhode Island boater and steward of the ocean, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a boat tax will drive both boaters and marine related businesses out of the state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink our marine economy.

Best Regards,
Matthew Cook
(401) 932-6066
72 N Woody Hill Rd. Bradford, RI 02808
matthew.cook468@gmail.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Tim Caggiano <TCaggiano@eecne.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:43 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Concerned Rhode Island Boater

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose House Bill 6256 and urge the committee to reject this bill. This tax would harm the marine industry, local businesses, and our boating community.

Tim Caggiano | COO | **Energy Electrical Contractors**

Office: (508) 278.3200 Mobile: (781) 636.8059

Main Office - 740 Quaker Hwy., Uxbridge, MA 01569

tcaggiano@eecne.com | www.eecne.com



Chris O'Brien

From: jamesmcampbell <jamesmcampbell@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:23 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256 - Taxation on boaters

"Dear House Finance Committee,
As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.
Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state,
threaten local jobs, and negatively impact our economy.
Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's Marine industry.
Sincerely,

James Campbell
Portsmouth, RI

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: Patricia Carney <patriciascarney@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:14 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256

Dear Members,

We are writing to oppose H6256. As native RI residents who grew up in RI, and have enjoyed the beaches and boating activities afforded to us here. If it wasn't for these activities, we might have moved to a different state. Rhode Islanders need to be afforded "no tax" on boats, as it's probably the single most important activity that keeps us in this state.

We have always enjoyed boating, using small pleasure crafts such as dinghies, row boats, and kayaks and we firmly believe this should be the right of every RI taxpayer.

We pay very high taxes and receive few benefits as RI residents.

Please support us to oppose H6356, so that Rhode Islanders have untaxed boating rights to the sea.

Sincerely,

Patricia S. Carney, MEd, retired RI Educator Patrick A, Carney, retired RI Fire Dept Captain Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: mary.creighton@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:56 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose+H6256+-+Don't+Tax+Boats

Dear+House+Finance+Committee
Please do not pass H6256. It will hurt RI.
Thank you
Best,
Mary A. McDowell

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.

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

Sincerely,

[Your+Name]
[Your+Town]

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: rdecard91@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:51 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: FW: oppose H6256- Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a RI boater for the past 18 years, I strongly oppose H6256. Reinstating a tax on boats will hurt every day Rhode Islanders by pricing us out of access to our waters and driving boaters and marine related industry out of state threatening local jobs and negatively impacting our economy.

Please vote **NO** on **H6256**. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry contradicting Rhode Island as the Ocean State

Sincerely

Raquel de Cardenas
Warwick

Chris O'Brien

From: Don Coxé <doncx@coxe.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:14 AM
To: House Finance Committee; Rep. Abney, Marvin L.
Subject: Please don't tax boats!

Dear Rep Abney, Chair, House Finance Committee

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,

- Don Coxé

Don Coxé
Pawtucket • Block Island, RI
mobile: +1 401-965-3439

Chris O'Brien

From: Peter Corr <peterwcorr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:09 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: the real problem to the tax portal is it is way to hard to use for sales tax payments

i will explain if you care to listen peter corr northeast millwork 4016412506

Chris O'Brien

From: Jay Cardosi <jay@jjcardosi.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:50 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat taxes

Hello, All,

I request you do not apply any new taxes to boat purchases or ownership.

Boating is one of Rhode Island's best features.

It is also great for our economy.

Let's keep it that way.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: M C <ms.marinac@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:51 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256 Opposition

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Marina Campbell
North Kingstown, RI

--
Marina Campbell
+1 (401) 440-3775
ms.marinac@gmail.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Curtis Adam <curtisadam@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:52 AM
To: House Finance Committee
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.

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

Sincerely,

J. Curtis Adam
Newport, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: M C <ms.marinac@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:51 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256 Opposition

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine-related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy.

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

Sincerely,
Marina Campbell
North Kingstown, RI

--
Marina Campbell
+1 (401) 440-3775
ms.marinac@gmail.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Jay Cardosi <jay@jjcardosi.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:50 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat taxes

Hello, All,

I request you do not apply any new taxes to boat purchases or ownership.

Boating is one of Rhode Island's best features.

It is also great for our economy.

Let's keep it that way.

Thank you,

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Peter Corr <peterwcorr@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:03 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: i oppose h6256 peter corr tiverton,newport ri

Chris O'Brien

From: Tim Canova <timcan27@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:59 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance, Committee

As a Rhode Island Boater, I strongly Oppose H6256

Reinstating a tax on boats will drive both boaters and marine related businesses out of state, threaten local jobs and negatively impact our economy

Please vote NO on H6256 Do not sink Rhode Islands marine industry.

We are the Ocean State

Timothy Canova

Westerly RI

Chris O'Brien

From: JIN CHANDARA <jinsters401@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 2:07 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Bill H6256

No, just no!! Get your greedy money somewhere else. We're already tax on our income and everything else we buy. Inflation is through the roof. Home prices are the highest. Property tax has double. Why would you start taxing things that don't get tax. Isn't the increase in property tax not enough?

What are you hoping to fill by doing this?
No to Bill H6256!!

Chris O'Brien

From: captnpopeye@aol.com
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 2:06 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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.

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

Sincerely,

Mark Ceprano
North Providence

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: Kylie Cohen <kylie.cohen.kc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:39 AM
To: House Finance Committee
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. Don't sink Rhode Island's marine industry.

Sincerely,
Kylie Cohen (Warwick, RI)

Chris O'Brien

From: john casey <jcasey1122@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:55 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

I OPPOSE H6256 TAX!!
PLEASE DO NOT TAX US OUT OF THE WATER !!! OR THIS STATE!!
Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Glenn Civic <gcivic1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:32 PM
To: House Finance Committee
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.

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

Sincerely,

Glenn Civic
Warwick

Chris O'Brien

From: john casey <jcasey1122@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:52 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

I OPPOSE H6256 !
PLEASE NO BOAT TAX!!

From: Jennifer Hilton Cavanagh <jhiltoncav@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:23 PM
To: Jennifer Hilton Cavanagh
Subject: Opposition to House Bill 6256 – An Act Relating to Taxation – Property Subject to Taxation
Attachments: Opposition to House Bill 6256 – An Act Relating to Taxation – Property Subject to Taxation.pdf

Good evening,

I write to strongly oppose House Bill 6256 and urge you to consider its devastating potential consequences, particularly for Rhode Island's boating and marine trades industries.

This bill, which would allow municipalities to revoke tangible property tax exemptions for manufacturers, is a direct threat to Rhode Island's maritime economy—a sector that is not only culturally foundational but economically indispensable to our coastal communities.

Rhode Island's Marine Industry: A Critical Economic Driver

Rhode Island is known as the Ocean State for good reason. Boating, marine manufacturing, and associated services are deeply interwoven into our economy, employing over 13,000 people and generating more than \$2 billion annually in direct and indirect economic activity. From small family-owned boatyards and builders to world-class yacht manufacturers, these businesses rely on narrow margins and stable policy environments to survive.

Taxing manufacturing equipment, especially in capital-intensive industries like boat building, would drive up operational costs and force small operators to make impossible decisions: downsize, relocate, or close entirely.

We've Been Down This Road Before—and It Was a Disaster

In the early 1980s, Rhode Island experimented with taxing boat sales and manufacturing. The results were swift and devastating:

- **Over 300 marine trades jobs were lost** between 1981 and 1983.
- Several prominent boat builders—including Tillotson-Pearson and Alden Yachts—either shuttered operations or relocated out of state.
- Marina development projects were canceled or delayed, as investors feared a hostile tax environment.
- The state's reputation among recreational boaters and manufacturers plummeted, sending ripples through tourism, hospitality, and shoreline businesses.

Recognizing this mistake, Rhode Island lawmakers **rescinded those tax policies in the mid-1980s** to stop the economic bleeding. The decision was a turning point, and since then, the exemption of manufacturing equipment—particularly in the marine trades—has been credited with helping revive the industry.

Taxing Marine Equipment Is Short-Sighted and Self-Defeating

House Bill 6256 opens the door to taxing manufacturing equipment and property currently exempted—including boat molds, engines, rigging systems, and fabrication machinery. These are not luxury assets—they're essential tools of trade. If taxed, small yards and builders will not simply absorb the cost—they'll pass it on, cut payroll, or leave Rhode Island entirely.

This bill would:

- Undermine years of industry investment and workforce training programs (like those through Polaris MEP and IYRS).
- Jeopardize seasonal employment in dozens of working waterfronts.
- Create ripple effects across real estate, fuel sales, tourism, and shoreline retail.

A Final Word

Rhode Island has spent decades recovering from the missteps of the 1980s. Let's not undo that hard-fought progress by repeating a policy that was proven to fail.

For the good of our working waterfronts, our tradespeople, and our coastal economy, I respectfully urge you to vote **NO** on H6256.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Hilton Cavanagh

Chris O'Brien

From: Walter Charello <waltercharello@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:16 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 - Don't Tax Boats

Chris O'Brien

From: Jonathan Cronin <neodoc@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:12 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Concerned Rhode Island Boater

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose House Bill 6256 and urge the committee to reject this bill. This tax would harm the marine industry, local businesses, and our boating community.

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Sharon Cacchiotti <sharonrose628@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 7:53 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Opposed to H6256 - Removal of Tax Exemption

Good evening. I am strongly opposed to H6256.

Are you aware many boaters in RI are MA residents? They come here to avoid MA taxes. If this rule changes, what will attract them to boat here? They will leave RI, leading to lost revenue for the state.

Also, since boating is a choice and a huge financial undertaking, the removal of the tax exemption could make boating unaffordable for many. Furthermore, this repeal could hurt tourism in areas like Newport, Block Island, Narragansett, Wickford, Bristol, Warwick, Providence River and all around the Greenwich Bay Area. This repeal could also negatively impact waterfront restaurants who have struggled enough the past few years. I hate to mention this, but this could even impact alcohol sales.

Please vote against the repeal of the tax exemption as this could have a potentially negative financial impact on the State of RI.

Sincerely,
Sharon Cacchiotti
1 Ginger Circle
Cranston, RI. 02921
401-258-2004

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Christopher Caouette <christopher.newport29@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 7:49 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Please vote NO on H6256

Please vote NO on H6256. Don't sink Rhode Island's Marine Industry

Sincerely
Chris Caouette
Portsmouth, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Marc Carvalho <mcarv482@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:02 AM
To: House Finance Committee
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.

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

*Sincerely,
Marc Carvalho
North Providence.*

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Chris O'Brien

From: David Colannino <davidcolannino@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:14 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: OPPOSE H6256!

As a boater in RI for many years I am opposed to this tax. We have had a thriving marine industry and tourism business for many years. Do not mess it up!
Get your own house in order instead of constantly LOOKING for more money from the people of RI! We are already the last place to do business in the US! Hasbro ring a bell?

David M Colannino,DPM,FACFAS
Greenville Foot and Ankle Specialists
41 Sanderson Road, Ste. 104
Smithfield, RI 02917

T: 401-949-3220
F: 401-949-3296
www.greenvillefootandankle.com