
Chris O'Brien

From: Steven Hartley <steven.hartley76@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 4:40 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.

Chris O'Brien

From: Ken Harris <kenharris777@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 4:35 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.

Thank You,
Ken Harris
Bristol Yacht Club
[317-774-4343](tel:317-774-4343)

Chris O'Brien

From: Bob & Mary Anne Heino <mbheino@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 5:10 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]

Best regards,

Mary Anne Heino

Chris O'Brien

From: trish harley <trish-jh@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 11:04 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 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 Harley
Warwick

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Hank Halsted <Hank.Halsted@NorthropandJohnson.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:13 PM
To: Robert D. Leslie, CPYB; House Finance Committee
Cc: .All Newport
Subject: Re: Boat sales Tax.

Well Done Bob Leslie!

Many Thanks for reaching out with this essential message to our legislators.

'Back in the Day', Shep McKenney, Chairman of Hinckley, testified to congress about the Luxury Tax and summed this up most efficiently -

"The best way to take money from the pockets of the wealthy and put it in the hands of working people is to Build Yachts!!

All Best,

hh


Hank Halsted

Senior Yacht Broker

-

Mobile +1 401 965 3256

Office +1 401 848 5500

91 Long Wharf

Newport, RI 02840 United States

northropandjohnson.com



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From: Robert D. Leslie, CPYB <Robert.Leslie@NorthropandJohnson.com>

Date: Monday, May 5, 2025 at 3:27 PM

To: Housefinance@rilegislature.gov <Housefinance@rilegislature.gov>

Cc: .All Newport <all_newporot@NorthropandJohnson.com>

Subject: Boat sales Tax.

Greetings, As a marine industry leader I implore you to defeat this proposal. Taxing boats in Rhode Island is a misguided attempt to penalize the wealthy. The unintended consequence is the damage to the marine industry that is currently thriving in Rhode Island, in part, because of the current tax code which encourages boat building, boat maintenance, boat ownership and sales in our State. Taxing a specific market (in this case Boating) will simply lead to boaters seeking alternative states to spend their money.

Chris O'Brien

From: Skiahh <skiahh@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 10:42 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Bill to tax boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater, resident and taxpayer, 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.

Thank you,

Bill Hanlon
304 Colonel John Gardner Road
Narragansett, RI 02882

Sent from my mobile. Please pardon the typos.

Chris O'Brien

From: Cooper Horley <chorley31@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:12 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256- Don't tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater and Charter Owner , 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,
Cooper Horley
Portsmouth RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Joan Harnish <jharnish52@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:31 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 and Protect Rhode Island's Marine Economy

I have reviewed this legislation and am in complete opposition to it. This issue came up a number of years ago and it was an economy killer then as it is now. Do you really think that it is only the super wealthy that own boats here in our Ocean State? Tell Mr. Governor McKee to sharpen the pencil on that outrageous budget. And collect some recovery from the responsible parties for the bridge nightmare.

Our boating community comprise people who are environmentally aware, contribute to our state's economy by spending money for boating equipment and a myriad of boating related activities, being involved numerous projects and are truly involved and aware of protecting our environment, our fish and wildlife. In addition, what about the numerous businesses that thrive and provide employment and pay taxes to support or state's economy. A failure to support our marine economy is shortsighted and will damage our state. After all, this is the Ocean State and our legislature must take care of all the people and businesses that care for our Ocean heritage.

Joan Harnish

Concerned Citizen & Lifelong Resident

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Josh Hodgson <josh@anchoryachts.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:31 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose 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.

I have owned Anchor Yachts for over 21 years and the "no sales tax on boats sold in Rhode Island" has played a critical part in generating sale and contributed to our success in the yacht sales industry.

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

Sincerely,
Josh Hodgson
Barrington, RI

Anchor Yachts

Josh Hodgson

Office (401)246-2100

mobile (401)338-9625

Email josh@anchoryachts.com

Website www.anchoryachts.com

[Anchor Yachts YouTube Video](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: DANIEL HEUN <dheun@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:12 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,

Daniel Heun
Warwick RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Lawrence Hicks <lehicks10@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:46 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256 tax 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,

Lawrence Hicks
Bristol RI

Chris O'Brien

From: George <ghagerty646@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:32 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Rep. Casimiro, Julie A.; Rep. Craven, Robert E.
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 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,
George Hagerty
North Kingstown

Chris O'Brien

From: Rob and Leah Hindley <lrhindley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:32 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,

Leah Hindley

Chris O'Brien

From: Terri J Hughes <twilly1962@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:21 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: No to Boat Tax

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,
Terri Hughes
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Stephen Haran <sgharan@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:11 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 and Protect Rhode Island's Marine Economy

Dear Members of the House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater and constituent, I respectfully urge you to oppose House Bill 6256. Reinstating a sales tax on boats and related services would significantly impact everyday Rhode Islanders by making boat ownership less accessible and placing unnecessary strain on a vital sector of our economy.

This proposal would drive boaters and marine businesses to neighboring states with more favorable tax policies, resulting in the loss of jobs and revenue across our coastal communities. The current exemption has helped build a thriving marine industry that benefits marinas, service providers, local clubs, and waterfront towns alike.

Please vote no on H6256 and continue to support Rhode Island's marine economy.

Steve Haran
1179 Carrs Pond Rd
EG

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: Sue Hagan <smhagan0506@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:04 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Say no to boat tax
Attachments: S.gif; S.gif; Constant Contact.webp



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,
Sue Hagan
Bristol

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Data Notice](#)

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: SCOTT HENDERSON <redhrly@cox.net>
Sent: Thursday, May 8, 2025 10:40 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,
Coventry Ri

[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

Chris O'Brien

From: Bill Hartnett <billhartnett@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:50 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Vote NO on H6256

Importance: High

Dear House Finance Committee,

I have been a RI boater for over 60 years. In high school I worked at Sturdee Boat in Tiverton building classic Amesbury skiffs. In college, my summer job was running Pirate Cove Marina in Portsmouth. My first job out of college was working at Shore Sails in Newport for 5 years. Now in my 70's, I have been a lifelong competitive sailor and recreational boater, and am a member of the Ida Lewis and New York Yacht Clubs. Newport and Rhode Island are widely regarded as the Yachting Capital of America - some would say the World. **If H6256 passes, all that will change.**

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,
William Hartnett
Newport

billhartnett@hotmail.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Scott Humphrey <scott@clamdoor.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:00 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Please vote NO on H6256

Let's keep this industry the pride of RI and afford the vast industry employees here in RI a good career.

Scott Humphrey

Chris O'Brien

From: Robert Jeffrey Hofmann <rjeffreyhofmann@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:57 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat tax

Vote NO on the boat sales and property tax!!! Aren't there too many taxes in this state already??
~Jeff

R. Jeffrey Hofmann

Chris O'Brien

From: Rob Hindley <hindley11@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 3:33 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,
Robert Hindley
Bristol, RI
Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Brett Hodess <brett.hodess@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: NO on H6256

Do not pass H6256. This bill will hurt business in our state and end up costing more than the tax revenue will generate.

Chris O'Brien

From: Haywood Hartwell <Hwell1234@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:42 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Vote No on 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,
Haywood Hartwell
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: John Holmes <johnholmes@frontlinepowersolutions.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 2:22 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Marine Tax

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 T. Holmes,
Bristol RI

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Chris O'Brien

From: Jed Higgins <jed.r.higgins@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:30 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Please oppose 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,
Jed Higgins
Coventry, RI**

Chris O'Brien

From: Haley Hadfield-Bristol Marine <haley@bristolmarine.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:01 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Please remove 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,
Haley
Bristol RI

--

Haley Hadfield
Parts Department



1 Main St, Somerset MA
Phone (508)-678-1234
Fax (508)-678-1703

Chris O'Brien

From: Michael Hanners <silverheels5@cox.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:18 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat Taxes

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, Michael Hanners

Chris O'Brien

From: Peter Hackman <phackm@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:09 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.

Peter Hackman
24 Seaside drive Jamestown RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Jude Hughes <jude.hughes@1stdibs.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:03 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: NO BOAT TAX!

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. If this becomes law, I will reluctantly move my boat from Rhode Island and the thousands I spend each summer will move with her.

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

--

Jude Hughes

CONTEMPORARY DESIGN SPECIALIST
JUDE.HUGHES@1STDIBS.COM



Chris O'Brien

From: Paul Hamilton <pjhamilton6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:36 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed boat sales and annual property tax in RI

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,

Paul Hamilton

Paul Hamilton

Telephone +1 917-593-6825

Skype paul.hamilton111

Chris O'Brien

From: Patti And Paul Hamilton <pjypjh@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:36 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed boat sales and annual property tax in RI

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,

Paul Hamilton

Chris O'Brien

From: Paul Hamilton <pjhamilton6@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:31 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Proposed boat sales and annual property tax in RI

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,

Paul Hamilton

--
Paul Hamilton

Telephone +1 917-593-6825

Skype paul.hamilton111

Chris O'Brien

From: Skip Helme <helme98@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:09 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Fwd: HB 6256

Skip Helme
Wahine Ltd
401-641-2109

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Skip Helme** <helme98@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, May 6, 2025 at 7:57 AM
Subject: HB 6256
To: <housefinance@rilegislature.com>

Vote no.

The marine trade is essential to our local economy, and this exemption is a major driving influence for out-of-state people to bring their business to Rhode Island.

As a marine trade person and business owner for 40 years in the state of Rhode Island, I've experienced firsthand the positive impact that this exemption has had on Rhode Island economy.

Skip Helme
Wahine Ltd
401-641-2109

Chris O'Brien

From: jack haire <jackhaire@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:16 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: 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,

John Haire
Little Compton, RI
Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Lynne Hunter <lhunterslp@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:50 AM
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.

Lynne Hunter
23 Plymouth Rd
Jamestown, RI

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Gary Harlam <GHarlam@TechAdvisory.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:47 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater all of my life, I strongly oppose H6256.

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

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

Gary Harlam
East Greenwich



Gary Harlam
President | Technology Advisory Group
Tel: 401-228-6400 | www.TechAdvisory.com
250 Centerville Rd, Unit F15, Warwick, RI 02886



Chris O'Brien

From: Lynne Hunter <lhunterslp@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:50 AM
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.

Lynne Hunter
23 Plymouth Rd
Jamestown, RI

Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Gary Harlam <GHarlam@TechAdvisory.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:47 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boater all of my life, I strongly oppose H6256.

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

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

Gary Harlam
East Greenwich



Gary Harlam
President | Technology Advisory Group
Tel: 401-228-6400 | www.TechAdvisory.com
250 Centerville Rd, Unit F15, Warwick, RI 02886



Chris O'Brien

From: SHANE HANAHAN <shane@nautevari-nh.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:43 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Important

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,

Shane Hanahan
Cumberland, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Chaarles Hall <charlesghall@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 5:00 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat tax

The Honorable Ladies and Gentlemen,

You may happen to remember when the Fed's / Congress decided to tax non essential idem's, that included boats and related equipment. I and a few associates had just bought a Marina a few months prior to this new tax. After five years of trying to keep it in operation, we walked away, as did most of the boating industry, in Rhode Island. It has taken many years to bring the industry back to this state. This industry feeds this state in many ways. Do not kill this industry again !

Charles Hall
Little Compton, RI 02837

ent from my iPad

Chris O'Brien

From: Brian Horley <brian.horley@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:59 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Vote NO on H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island resident and 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.

Sincerely,
Brian Horley
Portsmouth, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Steve Haders <stevehaders@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:33 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Concerned RI 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.

Respectfully,
Stephen Haders

Chris O'Brien

From: Christine Haders <christinehaders@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:31 AM
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.

Regards,
Christine Haders

Sent from my iPad

Chris O'Brien

From: Frank Hearn <fxh0649@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:24 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Frank Hearn
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.

Chris O'Brien

From: Bob Hamel <bhamel5386@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:23 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear Committee Members,

I've been a recreational boater in Rhode Island for more than 60 years. I saw what happened to the Marine Industry back in the 90s with the Luxury Tax... it almost collapsed! Well, the Marine Industry has come back and is probably one of the most valuable/viable industries in the state employing thousands.

I own a 35' sailboat and a 22 " motorboat and spend about \$16K a year on yard fees, fuel, State Registration, insurance, contractors, supplies, and restaurants. I'm not handy so I have a diesel mechanic, outboard mechanic, fiberglass repair guy, electrician, bottom painter..etc that I feel I should claim as dependents.

Most boaters are not wealthy yacht owners but boating is our passion and major source of recreation. Additional taxes, fees and financial burdens would certainly give me cause to get rid of one of my boats and the expense of owning it.

I urge you to look at spending cuts in our huge state budget rather than further burden the taxpayers and risk damaging one of our last viable industries.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Hamel
859 Hope Street
Bristol, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Brian Hogan <hogandmd@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:20 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

As a Rhode Island boat owner and fisherman, I strongly oppose H6256.

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

The Rhode Island marine industry experienced significant growth after the repeal of sales tax on boats in 1993. This policy change has been credited with attracting more boaters, boosting employment, and fostering a thriving environment for skilled boat builders and professionals. The no-tax policy extends to not only the purchase of boats but also related services like dockage, repairs, and mooring fees.

Here's why this policy has been so successful:

Incentivizes buying and keeping boats in Rhode Island:

The lack of sales tax makes Rhode Island an attractive destination for boat owners.

Boosts local economy:

The marine industry in Rhode Island has seen significant growth, leading to job creation and economic activity.

Attracts skilled professionals:

The thriving marine environment has attracted and retained skilled workers in the boat-building and related industries.

Promotes tourism:

The presence of a large and vibrant boating community can attract tourists and further boost the local economy.

This is one of the few "economic bright spots" in Rhode Island and we should not go backwards.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Hogan

Portsmouth RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Kurt Harrington <Kurt@somethingfishyinc.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:16 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 - Don't Tax Boats & Lose Economic Benefits

Dear House Finance Committee:

As a RI boater, I strongly appose H6256.

Our water access and boating in general is an activity that attracts all demographics to RI. People live in RI and visit our state for water recourse we are fortunate to have, experiencing it by boat should not be a luxury or made available only to those significant financial means. Taxing boats will preclude many of modest means from having access to our waterways. Furthermore, the economic impact on attracting boaters onto the water, has been significant to our local businesses. Adding sales tax to boats will cause a reduction in dock fees, marine services, hospitality and all local attraction visited by boat.

Kut Harrington
Westerly Resident
kurt@somethingfishyinc.com
401-742-1396



Kurt Harrington | Fish Guy & CEO
P: 401-732-9970 x115 | 877-FISH-TALK x115

Fish Joke of the Week:
What did the fish think of the talent show?
That it was FIN-omenal!

Chris O'Brien

From: joseph Harrison <jghjr88@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:04 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat tax

As a Rhode Island resident, I strongly oppose H6256. It will hurt our all ready fragile marine industry. It will threaten jobs. Companies will that are here for the tax structure in place, will have no incentive to stay. Boaters purchase fishing licenses, gas, fuel and bait. Please vote No on H6256. Joe Harrison
Sent from my iPhone

Chris O'Brien

From: Tj Harris <tjharris401@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 7:49 PM
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.

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

Sincerely,

Captain Thomas J Harris

Middletown

Chris O'Brien

From: Bill Hewitt <hewittsbill@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 8:20 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,

Bill & Leila Hewitt
Little Compton

Chris O'Brien

From: SHANE HANAHAN <shane@nautevari-nh.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 9:43 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Important

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,

Shane Hanahan
Cumberland, RI