

Chris O'Brien

From: Charlotte Johnson <charlotte02840@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 5:41 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Vote NO on H6256 boat tax bill

To Members of the House Finance Committee:

Bill H6256 would reinstate Sales AND Property taxes on boats in RI.

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256. In my opinion it is a very bad idea for jobs and the economy.

Since the elimination of taxes on boats, RI's boating industry has grown year after year. Many boaters are attracted to RI because there is no tax on boats. They bring money into the state for all kinds of related and unrelated purchases that add to our economy.

Reinstating taxes on boats would reverse years of growth and hurt working families and businesses that rely on the recreational boating industry.

The economy will suffer. Jobs will be lost. It doesn't make sense.

Please vote NO on H6256.

Sincerely,
Charlotte Johnson
Newport

Sent from my iPhone.
Charlotte Johnson
401-226-1206 cell
Charlotte02840@gmail.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Randolph Johnson <randy@rjallc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:54 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Cc: Bristol Yacht Club
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: 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.

Randy Johnson
297 Water Street, Unit C-1
Portsmouth, RI 02871
(401) 293-0635
Cell (203) 979-4173
randy@rjallc.com

On May 6, 2025, at 6:51 PM, House Finance Committee
<Housefinancecomm@rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com> wrote:

Thank you for submitting written testimony to the House Finance Committee.

Written testimony must include your name/organization, bill number(s) and viewpoint (for/against/neither). The Clerk will post testimony to the General Assembly's website as soon as possible. Note, the posting of testimony may be delayed due to high volume. For faster processing, send written testimony in PDF format.

Written testimony submitted to any committee/commission of the RI House of Representatives is posted to and accessible on the website and viewable via Google, Bing, Yahoo and other search engines.

Chris O'Brien

From: Randolph Johnson <randy@rjallc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:51 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat Taxes

Please, no taxes on boats. Kill the bill.

Randy Johnson
297 Water Street, Unit C-1
Portsmouth, RI 02871
(401) 293-0635
Cell (203) 979-4173
randy@rjallc.com

Chris O'Brien

From: Eric Johnson <sailzulu@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 8:11 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Bill 6296

Dear committee members

As a recent boat purchaser, I strongly recommend urge you to vote against this bill. I recently purchased my boat in Rhode Island from a Rhode Islander and service and Store it at safe Harbor Marina in Portsmouth. This winter I spent considerable dollars on maintenance and mechanical upgrades. Additionally I keep my boat at Goat Island Marina and will use it as a base to cruise Rhode Island waters. Your completion is Maine. Keep Rhode Island trades and jobs in Rhode Island. It is a wonderful place and it is no secret that as to the impact the legislation that you propose to eliminate, did wonders for the industry and the state.VOTE NO.

Eric Johnson
MV Valhalla
Spearfish, South Dakota

Chris O'Brien

From: joshua jarbeau <jockjarb@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 8:57 AM
To: 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,

Joshua Jarbeau
East Greenwich, RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Nicole Jellinek <nicole.jellinek@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 10:53 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Re: Automatic reply: Testimony in support of Bills 5771 and 6047

Hello,

I'm checking to see about my testimony sent on 4/30 for a hearing that day, which has not been posted. I know from this auto reply that it was received, but want to make sure it is available online and to the legislators. Could you let me know please?

Thanks so much,

Nicole Jellinek

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 30, 2025, at 12:33 PM, House Finance Committee <Housefinancecomm@rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com> wrote:

>

> Thank you for submitting written testimony to the House Finance Committee.

>

> Written testimony must include your name/organization, bill number(s) and viewpoint (for/against/neither). The Clerk will post testimony to the General Assembly's website as soon as possible. Note, the posting of testimony may be delayed due to high volume. For faster processing, send written testimony in PDF format.

>

> Written testimony submitted to any committee/commission of the RI House of Representatives is posted to and accessible on the website and viewable via Google, Bing, Yahoo and other search engines.

Chris O'Brien

From: tom@geotecri.com
Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 1:34 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose+H6256+-+Don't+Tax+Boats

Dear+House+Finance+Committee

NO TO THE BOAT TAX

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,

[Thomas A. Jellison]
[Coventry]

Chris O'Brien

From: linda jamison <ljamison0419@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 4:10 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.

I was around years ago when there was a RI boat use tax and a federal luxury tax instituted and they sank the RI economy because so many sailboat companies went out of business. If you put the boat use tax back in you are going to sink the RI economy again.

Thank you,
Linda Jamison
7 Ocean Ave
Jamestown RI

Chris O'Brien

From: matt jester <mattjester23@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:15 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,
Matt Jester

Chris O'Brien

From: Chris Joy <cjbje@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:06 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Against 2025 House Bill # H 6256

To: The House Finance Committee

From: Chris Joy

I am against 2025 House Bill # H 6256

Repealing the exemption of a tax on motor boats will hurt the Rhode Island boaters in the lower income brackets, not the boaters in higher income brackets. Those with plenty of income will keep their boats and keep their slips. The lower income earners that are barely able to afford owning a motor boat will suffer. Those people are the ones that will not be able to enjoy boating and/or fishing as they do now. A slip for a 21 foot boat costs more than \$3000 for the season in Salt Pond. Now you intend to burden them with additional taxes. The people you are hurting the most, can't even afford a slip. They are using trailers to launch their boats.

There will be less boats consuming fuel if you repeal this exemption and we will obviously lose the taxes paid on the fuel. This will obviously hurt the Marina's throughout the state. The demand for slips and moorings will drop significantly. Jobs will be lost, which means less income tax. The Marina's will also make less revenue by lowering their prices to compete for the boaters that can afford to stick around. There will also be many more vacant slips. The owners of the Marinas will be paying less taxes due to decreased revenue.

It seems like we just phased out the motor vehicle tax. It doesn't make sense to bring back the boat tax. Doing this will eventually decrease tax revenue. Even non-boat owners disagree with bringing it back because they know that your next bright idea will be repealing the exemption on the car tax. This is just laziness on the part of our lawmakers.

To get more tax revenue, we need more jobs and especially more higher paying jobs. We need to get an increase in tax revenue from more income tax, not more property taxes. The towns are already killing us with property taxes. We all know higher paying jobs create more consumer spending, and sales tax revenue. Increasing the minimum wage is not going to help. It drives up the cost of owning a small business. We need to attract industries with higher paying jobs.

Going after the boat owners is a lazy solution and doing harm to the most vulnerable. I think it's shameful to even propose this bill.

Sincerely,

Chris Joy

Chris O'Brien

From: John Jenkins <johnj@oemtools.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 1:05 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: BOAT TAX

Just stop! There are enough revenue sources already being taxed...Taxing marine items (Boats, etc.) in the state of RI is so bad....Just stop!

John Jenkins
1-877-263-4897
CAS of New England
www.OEMTools.com



Click CAS Logo to view video.

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Chris O'Brien

From: Chris Joy <chris@seafreezeltd.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 12:38 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Repealing the Boat tax exemption is hurting the low income earners.

To the House Finance Committee.

I assume bringing back the property tax on boats has already been debated, but apparently you've come to a different conclusion than I.

You must know that you're hurting the Rhode Islanders in the lower income brackets, not the Rhode Islanders in higher income brackets. Those with plenty of income will keep their boats and keep their slips. They can afford it. The low income earners that have just barely enabled themselves the luxury of having a motor boat will suffer and many will not be able to enjoy boating and/or fishing anymore. A slip for a 21 foot boat costs about \$3500 for the season in Salt Pond and now you want to add more costs. The people you are hurting the most can't even afford a slip. They are using a trailer.

There will be less boats consuming fuel and we obviously lose the taxes paid on fuel. This will definitely hurt the Marina's throughout the state. The demand for slips and moorings will drop significantly. Jobs will be lost, which means less income tax. The Marina's will also make less money by lowering their prices to compete for the boaters that can afford to stick around. The owners of the Marinas will be paying less taxes due to decreased revenue.

We just phased out the motor vehicle tax. It doesn't make sense to bring back the boat tax. We will eventually decrease tax revenue by doing this. Even non boat owners disagree with bringing it back. Next you will be repealing the exemption on the car tax.

To get more tax revenue, we need more jobs and especially more higher paying jobs. We need to get an increase in tax revenue from more income tax not property taxes. The towns are already killing us with property taxes. With higher paying jobs, comes more consumer spending, and taxes on purchases. Increasing the minimum wage is not going to help either. We need to attract industries with higher paying jobs.

Going after the boat owners is a lazy solution and doing harm to the most vulnerable. It actually seems shameful.

Sincerely,
Chris Joy
M: (+1) 401 255 9463

Regards,
Chris Joy
M: (+1) 401 255 9463

Chris O'Brien

From: Alan Justin <alanfjustin@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 11:35 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,
Dr Alan Justin
Portsmouth

Chris O'Brien

From: Brent Jones <jonesathome@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 10:32 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 - Please Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee

As a Rhode Island boater, I strongly oppose H6256.

We, as boaters, spend a lot of money in the local economy which is subject to sales tax. I myself spend in excess of \$10,000 annually in repair services, new equipment, dockage, fuel, bait, and more.

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.

This is the Ocean State. Please don't tax our access to the ocean.

Sincerely,

Brent Jones
South Kingstown

Chris O'Brien

From: JOHN JAQUES <johnjaques@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 3:28 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 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.

John Jaques
Charlestown

Sent from my iPad

Chris O'Brien

From: LJ <ljhomes888@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:44 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256 Bill

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,
Lisa Johnson
Jamestown*

Chris O'Brien

From: Frank J <keyscaster@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:57 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,

Frank R Jensen
Voting resident
Charlestown

[Your Name]
[Your Town]

Chris O'Brien

From: Dennis Jacques <d.f.jacques@att.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 2:27 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Subject: I 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 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

Dennis Jacques

Warwick

Chris O'Brien

From: John Kim <johnjoong@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 2:25 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,
John Kim
East Greenwich

Chris O'Brien

From: Mark Jaquith <MJaquith@Dimeo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 2:20 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Boat Tax repeal
Attachments: Customers Letter for boat tax bill.docx

Please don't repeal the boat tax exemption- this was discussed years ago and the damage to the economy in a coastal state like RI is devastating. Think of the boat manufacturing jobs that will be lost.

Mark Jaquith
Warwick RI



**Mark Jaquith, LEAN, LEED AP Green Associate,
PHIUS-CPHB**

Senior Project Manager

Dimeo Construction Company
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Chris O'Brien

From: Josh Johnson <jojohnson13@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:10 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: H6256

Hello, my name is Josh Johnson. I've been a resident of RI my whole life so far (30 years) and I also very much enjoy my time on my boat on the water. I strongly oppose the house bill 6256, please don't put more taxes on the working class. This is completely unacceptable. VOTE NO!

Chris O'Brien

From: Jeff <jacobsonnj@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 6:00 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.

Jeffrey Jacobson
401-649-2965

Chris O'Brien

From: Steven Januario <stevenj@sunshinefuelsinc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 6, 2025 7:59 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,

[Steven Januario
[Bristol RI

Chris O'Brien

From: ben johnston <johnstonb66@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:35 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256!!!

Dear House Finance Committee,

My name is Benjamin Johnston and I am a resident of North Kingstown, as well as a proud Rhode Island boat owner. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed boat tax legislation H6256.

This bill would negatively impact local boaters, small businesses, and our coastal economy. Rhode Island has long supported marine industries and recreation by maintaining a competitive tax environment—this tax would reverse that progress and may drive boaters to neighboring states.

Please consider the broader economic implications and the voices of local constituents like myself. I urge you to vote AGAINST this legislation.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Johnston

North Kingstown RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Noelle Johnston <n timerjohnston@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:31 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256

Dear House Finance Committee,

My name is Noelle Johnston and I am a resident of North Kingstown, as well as a proud Rhode Island boat owner. I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed boat tax legislation H6256.

This bill would negatively impact local boaters, small businesses, and our coastal economy. Rhode Island has long supported marine industries and recreation by maintaining a competitive tax environment—this tax would reverse that progress and may drive boaters to neighboring states.

Please consider the broader economic implications and the voices of local constituents like myself. I urge you to vote against this legislation.

Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Noelle Johnston

North Kingstown RI

Chris O'Brien

From: Denise Jones <sdjones56@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 4:19 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Saving Marine way of life in R.I.

sdjones56@verizon.net **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,
Stephen H Jones
West Warwick*