

Chris O'Brien

From: Matt Gineo <mattgineo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 8:56 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Oppose H6256 - Don't Tax Boats

Dear House Finance Committee

As a Rhode Island Marine business owner, we strongly oppose H6256. Our company has been building boats in Newport for 50 years and this bill, if passed, would seriously impact our business. Oldport Marine is the sole remaining boat builder in Newport and it's becoming increasingly difficult to remain in business due to ever increasing operating costs. This proposed tax would add approximately \$20,000 to the cost of our Oldport 26 boats and would surely price out most of our prospective customers.

Reinstating a tax on boats will hurt everyday Rhode Islanders by pricing them 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,
Matthew P. Gineo
General Manager
Oldport Marine Services Inc
1 Sayer's Wharf Newport, RI