

Chris O'Brien

From: MICHAEL O'REILLY <mjoreilly@cox.net>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 5:29 PM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Subject: Oppose H6256 – Don't Tax Boats

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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.

Having been on and around RI waters for more than six decades I have personally seen the tremendously positive impact that no tax on boats and marine related industries have had. I know of many boats that have been purchased in RI, rather than another states (Massachusetts and Connecticut for example) specifically because of the lack of sales tax. I have delivered boats to RI for this reason. This has resulted in many millions of dollars into the RI economy that otherwise would have gone elsewhere. The supporting marine related industries have grown to be one of the largest and most respected in the world in no small part due to the favorable tax climate. This shortsighted proposal would jeopardize all of this and, in my opinion, result in long term losses for the state and the people of RI.

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

*Mike O'Reilly
Portsmouth*

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