

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** romainesteve@cs.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 5, 2025 3:52 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** HR6256

As a Rhode Island Boater for decades, I oppose HR6256. Boats are, by definition, mobile and there are ample surrounding options in adjacent states. Boaters in RI can easily choose to base elsewhere and many already live out of state. Boaters in RI spend significant amounts, year in and year out, supporting the marine industry, restaurants, grocery stores, and many, many more, while enjoying boating. The loss of this recurring revenue would be detrimental to these businesses and negatively impact recurring sales tax collections. Further, there is a relatively large registration fee that is paid bi-annually. It would be unconscionable to assess both.

Rhode Island has already lost nearly all of its historic maritime manufacturing industries. Don't drive out the rest as well.

Steve Romaine