

**Chris O'Brien**

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**From:** Suzanne Thoms <suzythoms@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 5, 2025 3:31 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Boat Tax Vote

*Dear House Finance Committee,*

*As a lifelong Rhode Islander and boater, I strongly oppose H6256. I taught sailing at URI for many years, our family are sailors, keeping our boat in Wickford, and our son works in the marine industry at Bristol Marine (formerly an oyster farmer in Charlestown, RI for East Beach Oysters).*

*It is already cost prohibitive to access a safe place to keep one's boat in RI, be it for working or pleasure purposes. Reinstating a tax on boats will hurt everyday Rhode Islanders by pricing us out of access to our waters, threatening local jobs, and negatively impacting our economy. RI already has a hard time attracting and keeping industry, why chase out such an historic and valued industry as our everyday costs are rising?*

*Rhode Island's maritime history is too important to drive away.*

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

*Sincerely,  
Suzanne Thoms*