

Chris O'Brien

From: Tom Kane <tkane545@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 5, 2025 7:13 AM
To: House Finance Committee
Subject: Fw: House Finance Bill H6256

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Dear House Finance Committee Members,

I am contacting you regarding the House Finance Committee's introduction of Bill H6256. I am asking that each of you evaluate this bill carefully prior to voting for or against.

I personally am opposed to this bill as I feel it will have a detrimental effect on RI's boating industry and RI's overall economy. I think if you examine this bill completely you would agree the overall impact will not be beneficial. Additionally, please reference an article which was written on the same subject in 2010:
https://www.independentri.com/local/article_2f28714c-be2d-5260-a93e-ca81856d7ef8.html

It is important to remember this road has been traveled before in the late 80's and the cost was considerable to RI's boating industry and local economies. There were several large boat manufacturers and marine industries which closed, and the short-sighted economic tax benefit was never realized. The reality of what happened was people lost jobs and businesses closed.

I have lived in RI since 1969 and have always been part of Rhode Island boating community. I am also a small business owner in the RI boating industry, 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,
Tom Kane
Narragansett, RI