



**RHODE ISLAND**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

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March 23, 2023

The Honorable Karen Alzate  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Special Legislation  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

**RE: H 5953 An Act Relating to General Assembly – Permanent Joint Committee on Naming All New Buildings, Bridges, Edifices and Other State Constructions**

Dear Chairwoman Alzate,

Thank you for providing the Department of Environmental Management (DEM) the opportunity to comment on H 5953, which would rename the fishing access point at Black Point in Narragansett after Stephen J. Medeiros. DEM supports this legislation.

Stephen J. Medeiros founded the Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Association in 1998 and served as Executive Director of the organization for over twenty years until he passed away in late 2021. For more than two decades, Mr. Medeiros served as a passionate voice supporting the interests of recreational fishermen in Rhode Island and across southeastern New England, while also advocating for sound science to support sustainable fisheries management plans. He was also a retired officer of the West Warwick Police Department and a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War. Honoring Mr. Medeiros' legacy by renaming the fishing access point at Black Point is a fitting tribute and DEM wholeheartedly supports this proposal.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer comments on this legislation and would be pleased to make ourselves available as needed. Please feel free to contact Jason McNamee, DEM Deputy Director for Natural Resources, at [jason.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov](mailto:jason.mcnamee@dem.ri.gov) should you have any additional questions or wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely,

Terrence Gray, P.E.  
Director

cc: Members of the House Committee on Special Legislation  
The Honorable Teresa Tanzi