

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** bounce@bounce.votervice.net on behalf of Claire Swift <user@votervice.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 26, 2026 12:40 PM  
**To:** House State Government and Elections Committee  
**Subject:** Reform CRMC, Pass H7996

Dear Chairman Shanley,

I support doing away with the politically appointed council, but am unsure about combining CRMC with DEM. Protection of coastal resources is vitally important to our state and should be science based.

The General Assembly needs to take meaningful steps to reform CRMC. The so-called reform law passed last year has not been implemented and simply changing who serves on the politically-appointed Council will not change what is a fundamentally flawed and inefficient structure.

Senate bill 3082 (McKenney) and House bill 7996 (Edwards) would create a more efficient and better-resourced coastal agency by eliminating the appointed Council and merging CRMC staff into the Department of Environmental Management. The new Bureau of Coastal Resources Management would bring Rhode Island in line with most other coastal states, give coastal resources access to shared legal and administrative resources and result in more timely and efficient permitting decisions.

Please prioritize our coastal resources and pass S3082 and H7996. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Claire Swift  
110 Sheffield Hill Rd  
Exeter, RI 02822  
cvswift13@yahoo.com