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To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Cc: Greg Gerritt
Subject: Support for H 7996

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To the House Committee on State Government and Elections, It is time to put an end to the farce that is the currently structured CRMC and place it into the RIDEM so that it can function as an actual government agency instead of a politically manipulated special agency.

Over the years I have has several occassions where i needed to go to a CRMC meeting and testify. I do not mind testifying in front of governmental agencies. I testify oftern enough in front of legislative committees, DEM, various state planning agencies, RIPTA, DOT, and various city bodies in Providence. In almost all cases I have been treated fairly. The only real exception has been the CRMC. The politicazl appointees of the CRMC have been the most biased agncy I have ever testified in front of, with especial rudeness from ther chair whenever i spoke on issues of environmental justice. And itwas not just me that the chiar was rude to. Hearings about the port of Providence and the pollution harming residents of the neighborhoods near the port were among the worst public mdeetings I have ever attended with resident after resident repeatedly cut off and prevented from speaking their peace because the chair had too many ties to the industries harming the community.

Other examples of the shenanigans of the CRMC include the debacle of Champlin's marina and the inability to enforce a decison telling the Quidnesset golf club to remove their illegal sea wall, a decision that was so easy but took CRMC years to reach,.

The CRMC, with its unique structure more than any agency ignores its professional staff to make politically biased decisions, and is among the slowest agencies in making decisions because the political appoiintees miss so many meetings so quorum cannot be met.

it is time to simply get rid of it and fold its professional staff in to DEM. This would simply its work, help it make decisions in more timely manner, and help tthe public believe they were gettign a fair hearing. I urge you to pass H 7996 and help all of us move forward to a better protected coastline.

Greg Gerritt Providence RI