

Steven Sepe

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net on behalf of Kendra Beaver <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Saturday, April 25, 2026 8:38 AM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: Reform CRMC, Pass H7996

Dear Chairman Shanley,

The current structure of CRMC is simply bad government. Such delays, politics and errors of law would not be tolerated by any other agency. The House refuses to change it despite numerous public examples of its failures and the Senate will not move it forward. Who does this structure protect? Not the coastal resources of our state.

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,

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