

Steven Sepe

From: bounce@bounce.votervoice.net on behalf of Susan McVicar <user@votervoice.net>
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2026 3:52 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: Reform CRMC, Pass H7996

Dear Chairman Shanley,

I support passing H7996 and dissolving the politically appointed CRMC council and transferring its functions to a new "Bureau of Coastal Resources Management" within the DEM. This change will improve legal, administrative, and technical resources for coastal protection and more consistent oversight. I believe this is an extremely important and positive change for our state to make.

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.

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 H7996.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Susan McVicar West Warwick, RI

Sincerely,

Susan McVicar
198 River Farms Dr
West Warwick, RI 02893
vicarofchurchst@gmail.com