

March 1, 2022

Good Afternoon-

I'm a resident of South Kingstown and a mother of two young children who adore the ocean and love walking, swimming, and playing at our state's beautiful beaches. I am concerned that the current definition and public / private perceptions of beach accessibility are threatening my family's ability to freely access the beaches.

I am concerned that the current definition of lateral access is often unclear to beachgoers as well as property owners. I am in favor of the definition of lateral access being redefined based on common sense and ease of visibility. I would consider the vegetation line to be the most obvious and clear way to define and illustrate public space to all parties involved. Another option would be using a visible high tide / seaweed line (wrack line) plus ten feet to allow for passage or use.

I am also concerned about property owners who illegally install fencing and signage that is impacted by high tides and has the potential to harm wildlife, the environment, and the public. I believe there should be substantial fines for property owners who install fencing and signage without approval of the CRMC.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns.

Tiffany Doran
South Kingstown, RI