

Steven Sepe

From: Conrad Ferla <conradwaves@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 2:05 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: YES Bill 8148 Reform CRMC

I am writing in support of bill 8148

CRMC is in major need of reformation. When I started fighting for shoreline access rights in 2020... one of the root problems with shoreline access rights was the ineffectiveness and inaction from CRMC since the late 90's. I have walked and explored CRMC rows all over the state. On a walk with NPR in 2020, we found most CRMC public rows to be blocked. Many things have improved since then, but the public itself forced CRMC to change directions. It should have never become so dysfunctional to begin with. We also found many appointed CRMC councilors were lobbying on behalf of big developers and were pushing for reduced public access to the shore. We have found CRMC caving to special interests and deep pockets in shoreline Fire Districts... We have found that CRMC is purposely defunded so that special interests can do whatever they want without fear of repercussion.. just look at the seawall at Quidnessett Country club. We have found CRMC approving hard structures after they are illegally installed... We even found CRMC approving private beach signs where Scott Keeley was arrested for collecting seaweed... It is complete dysfunction over there and it needs a complete overhaul. Time to put scientists, engineers, and those actually qualified to manage CRMC into the roles they should have, and let's leave the crony connected lobbyists out of the conversation... or at least not let them dictate CRMC itself...

REFORM CRMC 2024

Thanks

Conrad Ferla
South Kingstown Resident

Admin of Saving RI Coastal Access/Rights of Way

Shoreline Access Rights Advocate

Dad who wants his children and future generations to be able to enjoy the ocean state as it was intended to be....

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Conrad Ferla

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