

Steven Sepe

From: Stephanie Beebe <spbeebe@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 9:33 AM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Cc: Rep. Edwards, John G.
Subject: Support Bill H. 5453

Dear Chairman Shanley and Members of the House State Government & Elections Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Representative John Edwards' Bill H.5453, which proposes critical reforms to the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC). This bill ensures professional oversight and transparent accountability by shifting CRMC into the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM).

Sapowet Cove is a precious natural habitat and recreational area that should remain protected from commercial development, as clearly established by RI State Law 32.1.54. Unfortunately, procedural delays and conflicts of interest within CRMC have jeopardized this protection. Bill H.5453 offers a clear solution to these issues, replacing politically appointed volunteers with experienced environmental professionals at RIDEM.

Passing this legislation will not only safeguard the integrity of Seapowet's unique ecosystem but also affirm the public's right to enjoy our natural resources free from commercial intrusion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Beebe