

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Patricia Slingluff <naniola2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025 12:58 PM  
**To:** House State Government and Elections Committee  
**Subject:** Support for Bill#5706 re Coastal Resources

To: Representative Evan Shanley, Chair, House Committee on State Government & Elections.

Dear Sir,

Please remove all permitting, enforcement and decision-making powers from the present politically appointed Coastal Resources Council. The members do not have any coastal knowledge or training, no expertise in coastal policy, coastal engineering and no adhesion to the regulatory process. They do not have a legal representative to advise them during hearings of contested cases. There does not appear to be any accountability or transparency in their meetings and decisions.

Our coastal waters make Rhode Island a major tourist destination, a scientific oceanic hot spot, and a year round pleasure to its tax paying, voting residents. Many of the Council's decisions have been overturned by the courts. The Ocean State deserves better than politically appointed people who have limited to no knowledge of the complex issues that come before them. Obviously, there could potentially be bias attached to decisions.

Please ensure the passage of Bill #H5706 & S775 that will mandate a full time, in-house legal representative to advise new council members reporting to the Governor.

Thank you for your attention.

Patricia Slingluff

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A registered RI voter representative