

Spencer Bode
Public Comment

I know this isn't the place but I would vote/comment against the MPURP vessel. Adding a license to allow non state residents to land RI quota monitored species is unacceptable. Opening up the MPURP to be attached to the vessel disadvantages current license holders and operators by permitting not state residents/ to participate in fisheries that has required license holders to make initial investments in either time (affidavits/lottery) or money (buying MPURP).

Permitting the MPURP vessel in my opinion is making a loophole for non-RI taxpayers to land fish against our quotas without having to make the same investment that our current active fisherman (RI taxpayers) have made.

I thought the reason for liberating the exit entry ratio was to prevent the need for the license to go on the boat. Aren't There more licenses available through the annual lottery than ever before ?? What is the reason to liberate the license structure so vessel owners can use out of state fisherman to land our states quota ? I don't see the need and I'm sure all the individuals who have made their investment to obtain a MPURP would agree that allowing other individuals to operate a vessel and use a latent MPURP that doesn't belong to the operator/captain is disadvantaging the current licensing structure as a whole and really advantaging companies who will be able to shop these permits with much more accessibility.

From: [Allan Dunklee](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : License entries
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 7:43:15 PM

Hi, my name is: Allan Dunklee MP1502

Im writing you concerning restricted finfish licenses to be given out this year. It is in my opinion that at the very most It should be a one out / one in policy. If anything I think there should be a moratorium on the licenses giving away until the extra you gave out last year is brought to even. I am an active fisherman and this is how I make my living. We don't get enough quota for you guys to be giving away licenses 1 out 2 in. One to one is fair but 2 to 1 is too much.

Thanks for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Nancy Christensen](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Finfish endorsement proposal
Date: Monday, September 12, 2022 2:14:41 PM

Peter,

I can't make the meeting tonight but I want to go on record as strongly against the proposal of allowing 2 new licenses for every one out. Due to decreasing quotas, changing fish migrations, and the effects of global warming, full time fishermen already face challenges they can't control making a living on the bay. One factor we can control is keeping the number of licenses on an even keel. Increasing the number of licenses puts our livelihood even more at risk.

I fully support a 1:1 ratio on proposal #2 for unlimited finfish endorsement.

Thank you,

Bo Christensen

Sent from my iPad

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
FISHERIES

SEP 7 1992



9-6-2022

A Note From

CAPTAIN DAN

DEAR JOHN LAKE

I BOUGHT THE 36' FISHING VESSEL
"HAROLD-L" IN 1975 IN TIVERTON R.I.
IT WAS BUILT IN 1924 SO I REBUILT IT.
IT TOOK \$30,000 AND 9 MONTHS. 2 YEARS
LATER I PUT A DETROIT DIESEL OUT OF
A TRUCK IN IT. I RENAMED IT "DAN MULLINS"
AFTER MY GRAND FATHER A WELL
KNOWN PIONEER IN FISHING. I HAVE
FISHED IT EVER SINCE, USUALLY BY MY
SELF. YOUR NON-RESIDENT FISHING
PERMIT AND U.M.S. REQUIREMENT
THAT IS PROPOSED I CAN NOT AFFORD.
PLEASE CONSIDER A SMALLER INCREASE
AND NO U.M.S.

THANK YOU

Dan Ferguson

F/V DAN MULLINS

508-9995425

From: [David Blackburn](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Comment on Public Hearing
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 4:26:16 PM

Mr. Duhamel,

It is with a significant amount of surprise as well as distress to find that DEM is close to making a change in the fishing regulations that will I believe ultimately spell the demise of the small independent commercial fisherman. The change that I refer to is altering the licensing regulations that now allow independent fisherman to be individually licensed rather than the licensing of individual boats. While in theory this transition in licensing regulations would appear to have some positive elements administratively for DEM, the ultimate impact of this change in regulations would, over time, all but eliminate the independent rod and reel commercial fisherman unless he, or she, became an employee of a small boat fleet owned by a larger business entity such as a fish dealer - which **will** happen if this change becomes law. Why is it the little guy always seems to end up being the ultimate loser !

Sincerely yours,

David Blackburn

From: [Gary Mataronas](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : License
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 11:46:46 AM

Hi Peter,

Just wanted to support:

Proposal # 2: Industry proposal to amend to 1:1

a. Unlimited Finfish Endorsement: For each (1) Multipurpose License, or Standard Resident License with Unlimited Finfish Endorsement, or Standard Non-Resident License with Unlimited Finfish Endorsement that is not renewed, ~~two (2) one~~ (1) new Standard licenses with Unlimited Finfish Endorsement will be made available

Gary Mataronas Sr
F/V X-Terminator
Sakonnet Point
Little Compton, RI 02837

From: [Greg Renzulli](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : New Finfish License Opportunities
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 2:45:27 PM

Hi my name is Greg Renzulli PEL 1554. My opinion is that there should be no licenses given out this year for the unlimited finfish endorsement. And going forward it should be at 2:1 exit/entry....My reasoning behind this is because of a few reasons. It is becoming a common trend for RI to continue to lose quota in the striped bass fishery which only lasted 12 fishing days this season. Also our sea bass, tautog and fluke limits are so small the majority of the time its impossible for a full time fisherman like myself to make a profit at these limits. Then compound that with giving away more license opportunities and the whole thing makes no sense to me. We want to add more participants but then also have a reduction in or have very limited quotas? If RI is filling its seasonal quotas every year while neighboring states do not then we should receive more. If we don't then we also can't add any new participants. Its an unbalanced scale hurting us who make a living out here and not just doing this for a hobby. This is certainly a topic that needs to be monitored yearly due to participants leaving at different rates for any given year. Once again I think it is hypocritical to limit active fishermen and just continue to increase the number of participants while also having stagnant or reduced quotas given to us.

From: [jason.jarvis](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Public comment
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:13:23 PM

Good afternoon Peter , I'm offering my input regarding the MPVP. I have said my piece at the work shops. I oppose this license and the way the process was handled. I feel there was not enough public comment due to the timing and the way it was presented . I also feel it is a change that could severely impact our fisheries in a negative way.

Thank you
Jason Jarvis

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Michael Matulaitis](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Fwd: Proposed Regulatory amendment
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:39:23 PM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Michael Matulaitis** <matulaitism@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 22, 2022 at 2:10 PM
Subject: Proposed Regulatory amendment
To: Peter Duhamel <pete.duhamel@dem.ri.gov>

Hi Peter,

My name is Michael Matulaitis, long time permit holder and fisherman. My fishing takes place 100 percent outside 3 miles. I also have Rose Marie that has permits with long history and Summer flounder exemption in CPH.

I want to preserve these permits.

There are vessels that have RI Summer flounder exemptions that can't land fish caught outside 3 miles because they don't have residency. Or natural?

They should be able to land as long as they have the proper exemption and proper federal permits.

Some damage was done to inshore(beach) 7 or 8 years ago when large vessels wiped out the herring on the beach. Inshore should be protected. Maybe a vessel length limit? Need to gather some data on this.

I think this could be done with vms and observer data.

Who needs the beach and who does not.

The proposed fee structure seems very complicated and confusing to me.

More work to protect the inshore waters with diverse fisheries and gear types.

Please do not adopt this proposal so quickly.

Mike Matulaitis
508-280-0490

From: [micheal mcelroy](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : rATIO
Date: Tuesday, September 20, 2022 10:48:08 AM

Hi Peter

Just for the record .. exit enter ratio I,m in favor for the one to one ratio on the finfish license

Thankyou

Mike McElroy MP -0082

From: [Robert DeMasi](#)
To: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Multi Purpose Vessel License
Date: Thursday, September 22, 2022 10:54:19 AM

To whom it may concern,

This email is in regard to "comments that may be submitted in writing and are strongly encouraged". I am in line with the fishermen who spoke at the September 12th meeting, in which all fishermen who made comments, at that meeting, were strongly against the proposal to issue multi purpose vessel licenses (MVL). This is a fundamental change to the licensing agreement and it was not properly vetted as are most of the rule changes. Again, to be clear, I am strongly against the proposal to issue multi purpose vessel licenses. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Robert DeMasi
Multi Purpose 000637

From: [Kenneth Booth](#)
To: [McManus, Conor \(DEM\)](#)
Cc: [Duhamel, Peter \(DEM\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] : Comments on 9/12/22 Marine Fisheries Public Hearing
Date: Wednesday, September 21, 2022 9:40:40 PM

The Rhode Island Commercial Rod and Reel Association position on the proposed regulation changes:

Multi -purpose vessel licensing-

RICRRA objects to this proposed regulation and the legislative change which enable the process to move forward. Rhode Island's commercial fishery has always been a diverse community offering opportunities for all types and levels of participation. Licensing of vessels will change that into an industry dominated and controlled by a few large corporations as evidenced in other States. While there was no evidence presented at any of the workshops or public hearing as to the need for this change there was overwhelming comment as to the negative effects it would have on the State's fishing industry. This is the most significant regulation change to be proposed since sector allocation but has lacked the critical review process which occurred at that time. If initiated, this regulation will result in the elimination of a multitude of small businesses and significant economic impact on host municipalities, particularly Narragansett. It is interesting to see a proposal of this type generated at a time when our Governor and General Assembly claim to support the small business community. While we plan to work to reverse the enabling legislation, at this time we are limited to supporting Proposal 1 and delay implementation until 2024.

Issuance of New Licenses - Entry/Exit Ratio

RICRRA supports Proposal 2 with an entry/ exit of 1:1.

Sincerely,
Ken Booth, President
Rhode Island Commercial Rod & Reel Association



Virus-free. www.avast.com [[avast.com](#)]
[\[avast.com\]](#)

To: Mr. Terrence Gray, Director of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

Multi Purpose Vessel Licensing

I am opposed to the proposed change in regulation which would create and allow for the issuance of a Multipurpose Vessel License. The creation of this license would drastically alter the Rhode Island commercial fishing industry. Over time, this license would enable large corporate entities to control and dominate the RI fishing industry at the expense of hundreds of independent small businesses. I have concerns as to the process and timing that this regulation change was initiated. A proposed change of this magnitude should have been aggressively vetted with directed outreach to all commercial fishermen and associated businesses. The Department should have engaged a resource economist to thoroughly analyze the potential effects of this proposal on the Port of Galilee and Town of Narragansett. Licensing the fisherman as opposed to the vessel has provided RI with a healthy, diverse fishery. The negative effects of this licensing method can be seen in many ports in the country, most notably nearby New Bedford. In the hope of preventing this change from ever occurring I support **Proposal 1- No licenses to be issued prior to January 1, 2024.**

Exit/Entry Ratio

I am in favor of Proposal 2 – Industry Proposal to amend to 1:1. One new license should be issued for each one that is retired.

Sincerely,

Adam Morse - Adam Morse

General Manager

Narragansett Bay Lobster, Inc

Date 9/20/22

To: Mr. Terrence Gray, Director of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

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Sincerely,



CFL # 604

PEL # 1685

Date 9/20/22

SALES MANAGER
NARRAGANSETT BAY LOBSTERS, INC.

To: Mr. Terrence Gray, Director of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

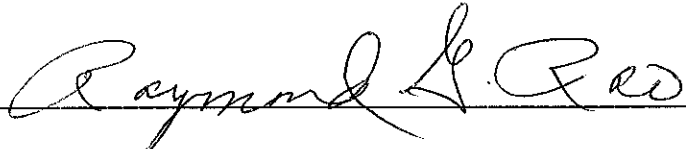
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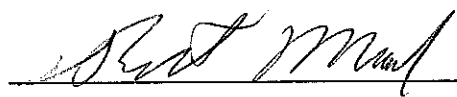
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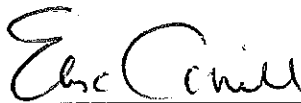
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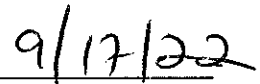
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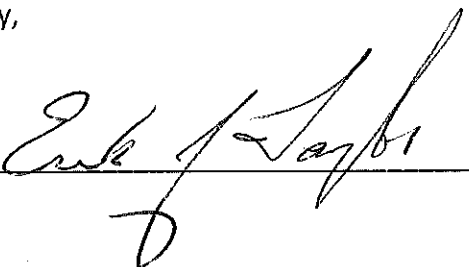
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Courty Smith Date 9/16/2022

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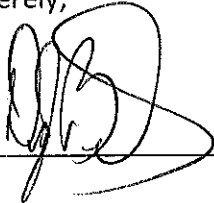
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JTB', written over a horizontal line.

Date 9-17-22

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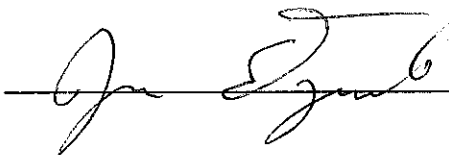
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Fred Lewis

Date 9/17/2022

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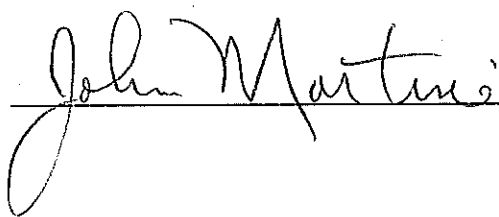
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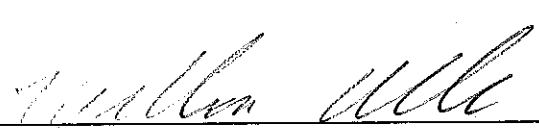
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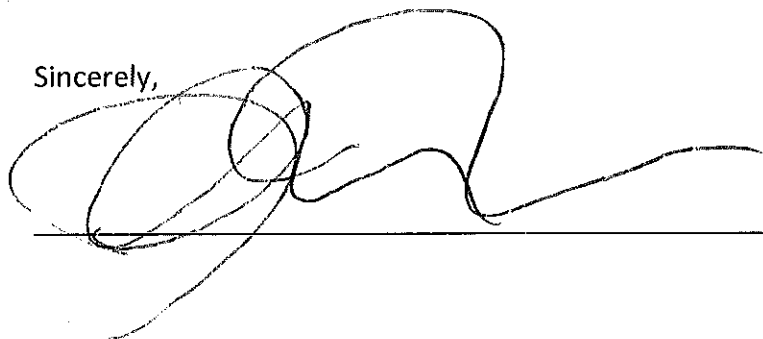
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Date 09.17.2022

To: Mr. Terrence Gray, Director of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments


Multi Purpose Vessel Licensing

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Exit/Entry Ratio

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Gray", written over a horizontal line.

Date 9-17-2022

To: Mr. Terrence Gray, Director of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

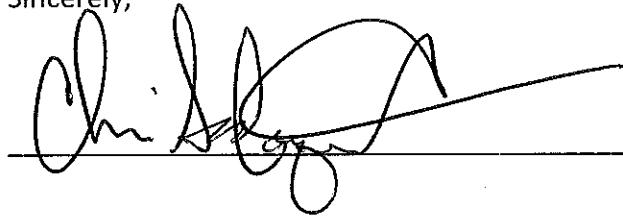
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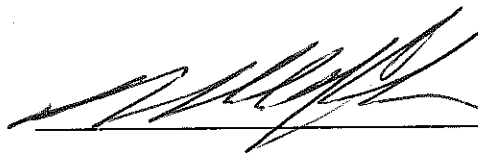
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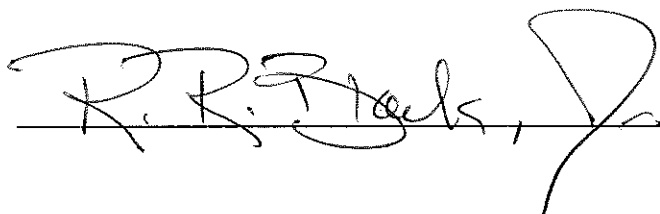
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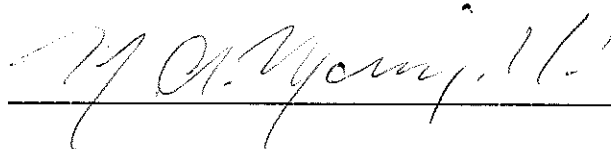
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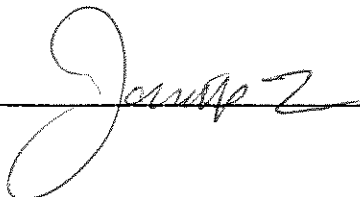
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Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

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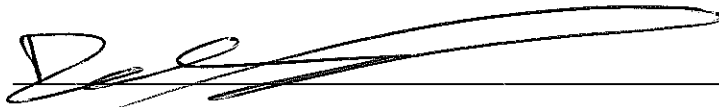
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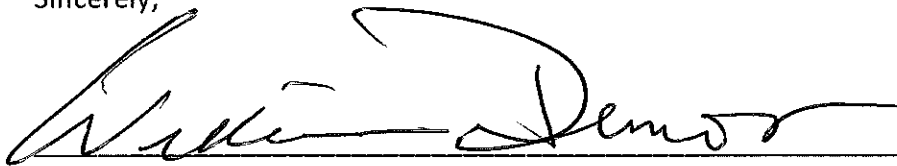
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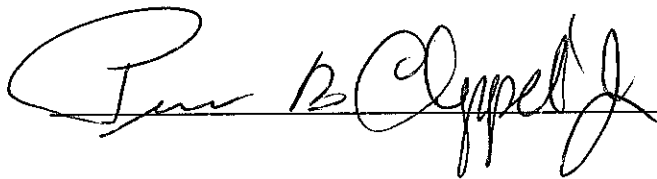
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Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

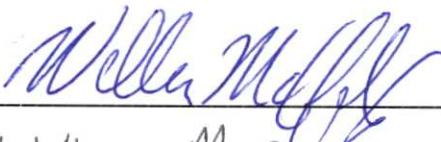
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William McCaffrey
F/r Wendy Lee

Date 9/21/22

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Subject: September 12, 2022 Public Hearing on Proposed Regulation Amendments

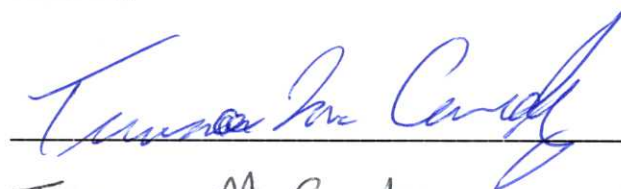
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Terrance McCurdy
Fisherman

Date 9/20/2022

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Richard Lema

Date 9/21/2022



September 22, 2022

100 Davisville Pier
North Kingstown, R.I. 02852 U.S.A.
Tel: (401)295-2585

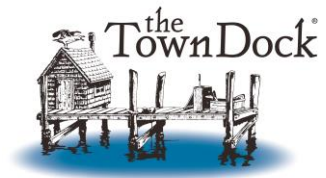
Conor McManus, Chief
RI Department of Environmental Management
Marine Fisheries Division
3 Ft. Wetherill Rd., Jamestown, RI 02835

Re: Part 2- Commercial Marine Fishing Licenses, Landing Permits, and Party and Charter Licenses [250-RICR-90-00-2](#), Proposed Amendment

Dar Conor,

We are in support of continuing development of proposed rules for the issuance of the new Multipurpose Vessel License (MVL), as it offers potential flexibility that could be beneficial to industry participants. We are not opposed to extending the timeframe necessary to develop these alternatives in order to ensure full industry participation and support for whatever alternatives may be proposed in the future. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Meghan Lapp
Fisheries Liaison, Seafreeze Shoreside and Seafreeze Ltd.



45 STATE STREET | PO BOX 608
NARRAGANSETT, RI 02882

September 21, 2022

RI Department of Environmental Management
Division of Marine Fisheries
3 Fort Wetherill Road
Jamestown, RI 02835

Dear Director Gray,

I'm writing to comment on the proposed Multi-Purpose Vessel License initiative.

The Town Dock is in favor of the creation of a Multi-Purpose Vessel License (MPVL). This license would provide for flexibility for everyone in the fishery. A MPVL would allow a fisherman near retirement the choice of keeping their vessel and permits by allowing another captain to run their vessel. This could provide entry into the industry for those that normally wouldn't be able to afford it on their own. This would also allow companies like us to access a larger pool of candidates to captain our vessels. Having a wider pool would enable us to hire the most experienced person available and not tie us to choices based on where a person lives.

We understand there are a lot of questions and some concern from the industry regarding this license. We think the concerns come from not understanding what this license would and would not allow. The Town Dock is in favor of postponing this initiative for this year and continuing the discussion to make sure the industry is comfortable with what is being put forward.

Sincerely,

Katie Almeida
Sr. Representative, Government Relations & Sustainability



TOWNDOCK.COM
INFO@TOWNDOCK.COM
PH 401-789-2200 | FAX 401-782-4421