

**TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 2023 – H 5174
AN ACT RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION
COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

WHEREAS, the lack of a workable, readily identifiable right of access to the shore by the public has led to confusion, conflict and disputes between those attempting to exercise their rights and privileges to the shoreline and the rights of property owners along the shore; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the public and shoreline property owners to clearly and easily define the public's rights and privileges of and to the shore to avoid constitutional rights conflicts; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown is committed to protect the public's constitutional rights to access and enjoy their privileges of and to the shore while also respecting well-established property right laws; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 2023 – H 5174 provides, in relevant part, a clear definition of the high tide line, so-called, to preserve the public's constitutional right to access and use of the shore; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown finds that it is in the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the people and visitors to Rhode Island and the Town of Charlestown to enact a workable, readily identifiable right of access to the shore by the public to prevent confusion, conflict and disputes between those attempting to exercise their rights and privileges to the shoreline and the rights of shoreline property owners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Charlestown hereby requests that the General Assembly act favorably and pass House Bill 2023 – H 5174; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to provide a copy of this resolution to the Town of Charlestown's representatives in the R.I. General Assembly and all 38 cities and towns.

The RESOLUTION shall take effect upon passage.

By resolution of the Charlestown Town Council at a meeting held on February 13, 2023.

Amy Rose Weinreich, CMC

Amy Rose Weinreich, CMC Town Clerk

