# 2024 -- H 7060 SUBSTITUTE A

LC003898/SUB A/2

# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

### AN ACT

#### RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

<u>Introduced By:</u> Representatives Edwards, Kennedy, Bennett, Cortvriend, and Abney <u>Date Introduced:</u> January 05, 2024 <u>Referred To:</u> House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

- SECTION 1. Chapter 32-1 of the General Laws entitled "General Provisions" is hereby
  amended by adding thereto the following section:
- 3 <u>32-1-5.2. Sapowet Marsh Management Area -- Prohibition of development.</u>
- 4 (a) The department of environmental management is authorized to allow and promote
- 5 passive outdoor recreation within the boundaries of the land of Sapowet Marsh Management Area
- 6 and to enter into leases for the agricultural use of any portion of the land of the management area.
- 7 (b) Sapowet Cove, an area of water that runs from Sapowet Point easterly to the bridge and
- 8 then southerly, perpendicular to Sapowet Avenue, shall not at any time be commercially developed
- 9 or in any way modified from its current undeveloped state. The water at the mouth of the marsh,
- 10 for a distance of two thousand feet (2,000') from the bridge to Sapowet Point, measured in a
- 11 southerly direction from the shoreline, shall not be used for any purpose other than passive outdoor
- 12 <u>recreation.</u>
- 13 (c) For purposes of this section, "passive outdoor recreation" means the use of land and
- 14 water for the restorations, conservation, and management of fish and wildlife and their habitats and
- 15 <u>wildlife-associated recreation such as hunting and fishing.</u>
- 16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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## EXPLANATION

#### BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

## OF

# AN ACT

## RELATING TO PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

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1 This act would authorize the department of environmental management to allow and 2 promote passive recreation and enter into leases for agricultural use within certain boundaries

3 designated as the land of Sapowet Marsh Management Area.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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