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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

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A N A C T

RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- HARBORS AND HARBOR LINES

Introduced By: Representatives Carson, Craven, Casimiro, and Cortvriend

Date Introduced: January 16, 2025

Referred To: House Municipal Government & Housing

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Sections 46-4-6.2, 46-4-6.3, 46-4-6.4, 46-4-6.5, 46-4-6.6, 46-4-6.7, 46-4-6.8,  
2 46-4-6.9, 46-4-6.10, 46-4-6.11, 46-4-6.12, 46-4-6.13, 46-4-6.14, 46-4-6.15, 46-4-6.16 and 46-4-  
3 6.17 of the General Laws in Chapter 46-4 entitled "Harbors and Harbor Lines" are hereby amended  
4 to read as follows:

5           **46-4-6.2. Town of Bristol — Powers conferred.**

6           (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14 or any other provisions of the general laws  
7 notwithstanding and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
8 the town of Bristol, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Bristol to  
9 enact ordinances as the town council may deem necessary or desirable for the enforcement and  
10 supervision of any rules and regulations established by the town council governing the public  
11 waters and harbors within its jurisdiction, and to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and  
12 control of all vessels and the size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorages within  
13 the public waters within the confines of the town, including, without limiting the generality of the  
14 foregoing, the authority and power to regulate waterskiing upon any of the public waters; to  
15 designate upon a map of the public waters within the town the places where permanent or temporary  
16 moorings or anchorages may be maintained; to assign moorings; to remove moorings; to collect  
17 fees for the use of moorings; to provide for minimum mooring specifications; to provide for  
18 inspection of moorings; to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ as defined  
19 in § 42-17.1-46; to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and

1 exhibitions; and to provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks; to  
2 provide for the regulation of skin diving and scuba diving; and to impose penalties for violation of  
3 the ordinances not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding  
4 ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction for any one offense and the fines to be recovered  
5 to the use of the town.

6 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
7 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title, as  
8 amended.

9 **46-4-6.3. Town of South Kingstown — Powers conferred.**

10 The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws notwithstanding  
11 and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of the town of South  
12 Kingstown, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of South Kingstown to  
13 authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such authority as the town  
14 council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and supervision of any  
15 ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, and to regulate  
16 by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels and the size, type, location, and use  
17 of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the confines of the town including,  
18 without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing on  
19 any of the public waters, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the town the places  
20 where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to  
21 remove moorings, to collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring  
22 specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-](#)  
23 [17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to  
24 provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties  
25 for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or  
26 imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense,  
27 the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

28 **46-4-6.4. Town of North Kingstown — Powers conferred.**

29 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
30 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
31 the town of North Kingstown authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of  
32 North Kingstown to authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such  
33 authority as the town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and  
34 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its

1 jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels and the  
2 size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the  
3 confines of the town including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and  
4 power to prohibit waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide for the regulation of skin  
5 diving, and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the town the places  
6 where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to  
7 remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring  
8 specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-](#)  
9 [17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to  
10 provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties  
11 for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or  
12 imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense,  
13 the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

14 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
15 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

16 **46-4-6.5. Town of Tiverton — Powers conferred.**

17 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14 or any other provisions of the general laws  
18 notwithstanding and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
19 the town of Tiverton, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Tiverton to  
20 authorize for the appointment of a harbor commission and by ordinance grant such authority as the  
21 town council may deem necessary or desirable to the harbor commission for the enforcement and  
22 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its  
23 jurisdiction, and to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels and the  
24 size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorages within the public waters within the  
25 confines of the town, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and  
26 power to regulate waterskiing upon any of the public waters; to designate upon a map of the public  
27 waters within the town the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
28 maintained; to assign moorings; to remove moorings; to collect fees for the use of moorings; to  
29 provide for minimum mooring specifications; to provide for inspection of moorings; to provide  
30 regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#); to provide  
31 regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions; to provide for the  
32 removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks; to provide for the regulation of skin  
33 diving, and scuba diving; and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances not exceeding in  
34 amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or

1 house of correction for any one offense and the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

2 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
3 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title, as  
4 amended.

5 **46-4-6.6. Town of Newport — Powers conferred.**

6 The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws notwithstanding,  
7 and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the city council of the city of Newport,  
8 authority shall also be granted to the city council of the city of Newport to authorize for the  
9 appointment of a harbor coordinator and by ordinance grant such authority as the city council may  
10 deem necessary to the harbor coordinator for the enforcement and supervision of any ordinances,  
11 rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, and to regulate by  
12 ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels and the size, type, location, and use of  
13 all anchorages and moorings, within the public waters within the confines of the city including,  
14 without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing on  
15 any of the public waters, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the city the places  
16 where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to  
17 remove moorings, to collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring  
18 specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-](#)  
19 [17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to  
20 provide for the removal of wrecks or derelicts or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties  
21 for violators of the ordinances, not to exceed in amount three hundred dollars (\$300) or  
22 imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense,  
23 the fines to be recovered to the use of the city.

24 **46-4-6.7. Town of Little Compton — Powers conferred.**

25 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
26 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
27 the town of Little Compton, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Little  
28 Compton to enact ordinances as the town council may deem necessary or desirable for the  
29 enforcement of any rules and regulations established by the town council governing the public  
30 waters within its jurisdiction, and to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of  
31 all vessels and objects and the size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorages within  
32 the public waters within the confines of the town, including, without limiting the generality of the  
33 foregoing, the authority and power to regulate waterskiing upon any of the public waters; to  
34 designate upon a map of the public waters within the town the places where permanent or temporary

1 moorings or anchorages may be maintained; to assign moorings; to remove moorings; to collect  
2 fees for the use of moorings, the fees to be recovered for use by the town of Little Compton; to  
3 provide for minimum mooring specifications, to provide for inspection of moorings; to provide  
4 regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#); to regulate the  
5 location and placement of lobster pots, fish traps, and other fishing gear; to provide regulations for  
6 regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions; to provide for the removal of wrecks  
7 and derelicts or abandoned boats or docks; to provide for the regulation of skin diving and scuba  
8 diving; to prevent littering and pollution of its public waters; and to impose penalties for violation  
9 of the ordinances not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not  
10 exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction for any one offense and the fines to be  
11 recovered to the use of the town.

12 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
13 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

14 **46-4-6.8. Town of Narragansett — Powers conferred.**

15 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14 or any other provisions of the general laws  
16 notwithstanding and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
17 the town of Narragansett, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of  
18 Narragansett to authorize the appointment of a harbormaster, assistant harbormasters, and a Harbor  
19 Management Committee and to enact such ordinances as the town council may deem necessary or  
20 desirable for the enforcement and supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing  
21 the public waters within its jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and  
22 control of all vessels and the size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the  
23 public waters within the confines of the town including, without limiting the generality of the  
24 foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing of any of the public waters, to provide  
25 for the regulation of skin diving, and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters  
26 within the town the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
27 maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings,  
28 to provide for minimum mooring specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not~~  
29 ~~self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades,  
30 tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the removal of wrecks or derelicts or abandoned boats  
31 or docks, and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one  
32 hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days for any one offense, the fines  
33 to be recovered to the use of the town. The town council shall also have the authority to recover the  
34 cost of removing any wreck or derelicts or abandoned boats or docks from the owner or persons

1 responsible for the wrecks, derelicts, abandoned boats, or docks by suit in either the district court  
2 or the superior court of Washington County.

3 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
4 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

5 **46-4-6.9. Town of Jamestown — Powers conferred.**

6 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions notwithstanding, and in addition  
7 to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of the town of Jamestown, authority  
8 shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Jamestown to enact ordinances as the town  
9 council may deem necessary or desirable for the enforcement and supervision of any rules and  
10 regulations established by the town council governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, and  
11 to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels and the size, type,  
12 location, and use of all anchorages and moorages within the public waters within the confines of  
13 the town, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and power to  
14 regulate waterskiing upon any of the public waters; to designate upon a map of the public waters  
15 within the town the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
16 maintained; to assign moorings; to remove moorings; to collect fees for the use of moorings; to  
17 provide for minimum mooring specifications; to provide for inspection of moorings; to provide  
18 regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#); to provide  
19 regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions; to provide for the  
20 removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks; to provide for the regulation of skin  
21 diving and scuba diving; and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances not exceeding in  
22 amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or  
23 house of correction for any one offense and the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

24 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
25 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title, as  
26 amended.

27 **46-4-6.10. Town of New Shoreham — Powers conferred.**

28 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
29 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority or powers conferred upon the town council of the  
30 town of New Shoreham authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of New  
31 Shoreham to authorize it for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such  
32 authority as the town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and  
33 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its  
34 jurisdiction, and to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, and

1 the size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the  
2 confines of the town, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and  
3 power to prohibit waterskiing on any public waters, to designate upon a map of the public waters  
4 within the town, the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
5 maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings, to collect a fee for the use of moorings, to  
6 provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide  
7 regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the  
8 removal of wrecks or derelicts or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties for violators  
9 of the ordinances, not to exceed in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not  
10 exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense, the fines to be  
11 recovered to the use of the town. The town council shall also have the authority to recover the cost  
12 of removing any wreck or derelicts or abandoned boats or docks from the owner or persons  
13 responsible for the wrecks, derelicts, abandoned boats, or docks by suit in either the district court  
14 or the superior court of Washington County.

15 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
16 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title, as  
17 amended.

18 **46-4-6.11. Town of Charlestown — Powers conferred.**

19 (a) In addition to any authority or powers conferred upon the town council of the town of  
20 Charlestown, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Charlestown to  
21 authorize it for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such authority as the  
22 town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and supervision of any  
23 ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, and to regulate  
24 by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, and the size, type, location, and  
25 use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the confines of the town,  
26 including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit  
27 waterskiing on any said public waters, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the  
28 town, the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to  
29 assign moorings, to remove moorings, to collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide  
30 regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide  
31 regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the  
32 removal of wrecks or derelicts or abandoned boats, and to impose penalties for violators of the  
33 ordinances, not to exceed in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten  
34 (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense, the fines to be recovered to the

1 use of the town. The town council shall also have the authority to recover the cost of removing any  
2 wreck or derelicts or abandoned boats from the owner or persons responsible for the wrecks,  
3 derelicts, or abandoned boats by suit in either the district court or the superior court of Washington  
4 County.

5 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
6 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title, as  
7 amended.

8 **46-4-6.12. Town of Middletown — Powers conferred.**

9 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
10 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
11 the town of Middletown, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of  
12 Middletown to authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such  
13 authority as the town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and  
14 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its  
15 jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, both wind  
16 and power, and the number, size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the  
17 public waters within the confines of the town including, without limiting the generality of the  
18 foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide  
19 for the regulation of skin diving and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters  
20 within the towns the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
21 maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings,  
22 to provide for minimum mooring specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not~~  
23 ~~self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades,  
24 tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats  
25 or docks, and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one  
26 hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of  
27 correction, for any one offense, the fines to be recovered to the use of said town.

28 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
29 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

30 **46-4-6.13. Town of Portsmouth — Powers conferred.**

31 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14 or any other provisions of the general laws  
32 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
33 the town of Portsmouth authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of  
34 Portsmouth to authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such



1 authority as the town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and  
2 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its  
3 jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, both wind  
4 and power, and the number, size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the  
5 public waters within the confines of the town, including, without limiting the generality of the  
6 foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide  
7 for the regulation of skin diving and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters  
8 within the town the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
9 maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings,  
10 to provide for minimum mooring specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not~~  
11 ~~self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades,  
12 tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats  
13 or docks, and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one  
14 hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of  
15 correction, for any one offense, the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

16 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
17 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title and,  
18 further, the provisions of this section shall not affect the location or assignment of any moorings  
19 existing on June 27, 1986, except that those deemed by the harbormaster to be located at an  
20 unacceptable site shall be moved should he or she so order.

21 **46-4-6.14. Town of East Greenwich — Powers conferred.**

22 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
23 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
24 the town of East Greenwich, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of East  
25 Greenwich to authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such  
26 authority as the town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and  
27 supervision of any ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its  
28 jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, both wind  
29 and power, and the number, size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the  
30 public waters within the confines of the town including, without limiting the generality of the  
31 foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide  
32 for the regulation of skindiving and scubadiving, to designate upon a map of the public waters  
33 within the town the places where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be  
34 maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings,

1 to provide for minimum mooring specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not~~  
2 ~~self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades,  
3 tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats  
4 or docks, and to impose penalties for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one  
5 hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of  
6 correction, for any one offense, the fines to be recovered to the use of the town.

7 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
8 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

9 **46-4-6.15. Town of Cranston — Powers conferred.**

10 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
11 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the city council of the  
12 city of Cranston, authority shall also be granted to the city council of the city of Cranston to  
13 authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such authority as the said  
14 city council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and supervision of any  
15 ordinances, rules and regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, to regulate by  
16 ordinance the speed, management and control of all vessels, both wind and power, and the number,  
17 size, type, location and use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the  
18 confines of the city including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and  
19 power to prohibit waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide for the regulation of skin  
20 diving and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the city the places  
21 where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to  
22 remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring  
23 specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-](#)  
24 [17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to  
25 provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties  
26 for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in an amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) or  
27 imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense,  
28 the fines to be recovered to the use of the city.

29 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
30 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

31 **46-4-6.16. Town of Warren — Powers conferred.**

32 (a) The provision of § 46-22-14 or any other provisions of the general laws notwithstanding  
33 and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of the town of Warren,  
34 authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Warren to authorize for the

1 appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such authority as the town council may deem  
2 necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and supervision of any ordinances, rules, and  
3 regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, to regulate by ordinance the speed,  
4 management, and control of all vessels, both wind and power, and the number, size, type, location,  
5 and use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the confines of the town  
6 including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and power to prohibit  
7 waterskiing on any of the public waters, to provide for the regulation of skin diving and scuba  
8 diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the town the places where permanent  
9 or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to remove moorings,  
10 to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring specifications, to  
11 provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-17.1-46](#), to provide  
12 regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to provide for the  
13 removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties for violation  
14 of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or imprisonment not  
15 exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense, the fines to be  
16 recovered to the use of said town.

17 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
18 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

19 **46-4-6.17. Town of Westerly — Powers conferred.**

20 (a) The provisions of § 46-22-14, or any other provisions of the general laws  
21 notwithstanding, and in addition to any authority and powers conferred upon the town council of  
22 the town of Westerly, authority shall also be granted to the town council of the town of Westerly  
23 to authorize for the appointment of a harbormaster and by ordinance grant such authority as the  
24 town council may deem necessary to the harbormaster for the enforcement and supervision of any  
25 ordinances, rules, and regulations governing the public waters within its jurisdiction, to regulate by  
26 ordinance the speed, management, and control of all vessels, both wind and power, and the number,  
27 size, type, location, and use of all anchorages and moorings within the public waters within the  
28 confines of the town including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the authority and  
29 power to prohibit water-skiing on any of the public waters, to provide for the regulation of skin  
30 diving and scuba diving, to designate upon a map of the public waters within the towns the places  
31 where permanent or temporary moorings or anchorages may be maintained, to assign moorings, to  
32 remove moorings, to set and collect a fee for the use of moorings, to provide for minimum mooring  
33 specifications, to provide regulations for houseboats ~~that are not self-propelled~~ [as defined in § 42-](#)  
34 [17.1-46](#), to provide regulations for regattas, races, marine parades, tournaments, and exhibitions, to

1 provide for the removal of wrecks or derelict or abandoned boats or docks, and to impose penalties  
2 for violation of the ordinances, not exceeding in amount one hundred dollars (\$100) or  
3 imprisonment not exceeding ten (10) days in some jail or house of correction, for any one offense,  
4 the fines to be recovered to the use of said town.

5 (b) No powers or duties granted herein shall be construed to abrogate the powers or duties  
6 granted to the coastal resources management council as provided in chapter 23 of this title.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 42-17.1 of the General Laws entitled "Department of Environmental  
8 Management" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

9 **42-17.1-46. Definition of "houseboat".**

10 For purposes of this chapter:

11 "Houseboat" means a motorized or non-motorized vessel constructed on a float, raft, or  
12 barge with low freeboard, little or no foredeck or cockpit, that is used as a place of habitation and/or  
13 multi-purpose accommodation which is registered or unregistered. If used as a means of  
14 transportation, this use is secondary. "Houseboat" includes platforms, and waterborne hotels and  
15 restaurants.

16 SECTION 3. Section 46-22-9.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 46-22 entitled "Regulation  
17 of Boats" is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 **46-22-9.1. Houseboats — Exclusion from coastal ponds.**

19 (a) No person shall live on a houseboat on any coastal pond in this state.

20 (b) As used in this section, ~~"houseboat," means a building constructed on a float, raft, or~~  
21 ~~barge that is used for single or multiple family habitation or is represented as a place of business.~~  
22 ~~If used as a means of transportation, this use is secondary. "Houseboat" includes platforms, and~~  
23 ~~waterborne hotels and restaurants~~ "houseboat" means a motorized or non-motorized vessel  
24 constructed on a float, raft, or barge with low freeboard, little or no foredeck or cockpit, that is used  
25 as a place of habitation and/or multi-purpose accommodation which is registered or unregistered.  
26 If used as a means of transportation, this use is secondary. "Houseboat" includes platforms, and  
27 waterborne hotels and restaurants.

28 (c) A "coastal pond", as used in this section, shall be as designated or defined in the rules  
29 and regulations of the coastal resources management council.

30 SECTION 4. Chapter 46-23 of the General Laws entitled "Coastal Resources Management  
31 Council" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

32 **46-23-27. Definition of "houseboat".**

33 For purposes of this chapter:

34 "Houseboat" means a motorized or non-motorized vessel constructed on a float, raft, or

1 barge with low freeboard, little or no foredeck or cockpit, that is used as a place of habitation and/or  
2 multi-purpose accommodation which is registered or unregistered. If used as a means of  
3 transportation, this use is secondary. "Houseboat" includes platforms, and waterborne hotels and  
4 restaurants.

5 SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO WATERS AND NAVIGATION -- HARBORS AND HARBOR LINES

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1           This act would amend the definition of a "houseboat" to include motorized or non-  
2 motorized vessels.

3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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