

**RESOLUTION 2022-0007**

**TOWN OF TIVERTON**

**RESOLUTION FOR COASTAL BUFFER ZONE TO ALLOW FOR  
AQUACULTURE OPERATIONS AND MINIMIZE CONFLICTING USES**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton values existing public access and use of coastal waters and wishes to protect that access and use as guaranteed by the Public Trust; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton values and wants to protect the rights of riparian landowners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton recognizes that other municipalities in Narragansett Bay also wish to protect public access and use of coastal waters, and want to protect the rights of riparian landowners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton understands that the Rhode Island State Legislature gives the Coastal Resources Management Council jurisdiction over coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Resources Management Council is responsible for reviewing and permitting aquaculture leases; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Resources Management Council is exploring expansion of aquaculture in Narragansett Bay; and

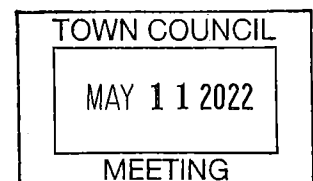
**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton wishes to reduce conflicting use of public waters, protect the rights of the public to access and use the State's waters as guaranteed by the Public Trust, and protect the rights of riparian landowners; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton understands the need to accommodate aquaculture and other uses of Tiverton's coastal waters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton believes a 1,000 foot buffer zone from shoreline in which no future aquaculture leases can be sited will minimize conflicting uses; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton believes excluding the future placement of aquaculture farms from Type 1 and Type 2 waters will also minimize conflicting uses in the same way as a 1,000 foot buffer zone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Tiverton understands that it has no authority to create this kind of buffer zone but believes Rhode Island's State Legislature has the authority to create this kind of buffer zone through legislation, and



**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we, the Town Council of the **Town of TIVERTON** ask the Rhode Island State Legislature to develop and to pass legislation that minimizes conflicting uses of Narragansett Bay coastal waters but still allows for aquaculture projects by creating a 1,000 foot from shoreline (mean high tide) buffer zone in which no future aquaculture leases can be sited; *or* exclude future aquaculture farms from Type 1 and Type 2 waters. This approach will help Tiverton and other Narragansett Bay communities to balance public waters with commercial use and create more specific guidelines for the CRMC and future aquaculture farms; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, upon passage of this Resolution, the Tiverton Town Clerk is requested to submit a certified copy of this Resolution to each and every member of the Rhode Island General Assembly who represents the Town of Tiverton and to all coastal cities and towns in Rhode Island.

Introduced by: Councilor Donna J Cook

Read and passed by a vote of the Town Council at the Tiverton Town Council meeting of April 25, 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan B Chabot". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Joan Chabot  
Town Clerk

Date: April 25, 2022