INTRODUCED BY: Senator V. Susan Sosnowski

DATED INTRODUCED: June 25, 2019

REFERRED TO: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

WHEREAS, The Coastal Resources Management Council is a management agency with regulatory functions "whose primary responsibility is for the preservation, protection, development and where possible the restoration of the coastal areas of the state, which extends out to the extent of the state’s jurisdiction in the territorial sea, via the authority given in state law and through implementation of its integrated and comprehensive coastal management plans "; and

WHEREAS, A reorganization of the CRMC and its operations and management procedures could provide increased efficiencies, opportunities and protection of our coastal resources; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That a special legislative commission be and the same is hereby created consisting of fifteen (15) members: six (6) of whom shall be members of the Senate, not more than four (4) from the same political party, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall be the Executive Director of Save the Bay, or designee; one of whom shall be the Town Manager of South Kingstown, or designee; one of whom shall be the Chair of the Warwick Planning Board, or designee; one of whom shall be the City Manager of the City of Newport, or designee; one of whom shall be the President of the R.I. Shellfisherman's Association, or designee; two (2) of whom shall be commercial fishermen, to be appointed by the President of the Senate; one of whom shall be the Dean of the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography, or designee; and one of whom shall be the Dean of the Roger Williams University Department of Biology, Marine Biology, and Environmental Science, or designee.
In lieu of any appointment of a member of the legislature to a permanent advisory commission, a legislative study commission, or any commission created by a General Assembly resolution, the appointing authority may appoint a member of the general public to serve in lieu of a legislator, provided that the majority leader or the minority leader of the political party which is entitled to the appointment consents to the appointment of the member of the general public.

The purpose of said commission shall be to make a comprehensive study of, and provide recommendations for, the reorganization of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council.

Forthwith upon passage of this resolution, the members of the commission shall meet at the call of the President of the Senate and organize. The President of the Senate shall select a member to serve as chairperson of the commission.

Vacancies in said commission shall be filled in like manner as the original appointment.

The membership of said commission shall receive no compensation for their services.

All departments and agencies of the state shall furnish such advice and information, documentary and otherwise, to said commission and its agents as is deemed necessary or desirable by the commission to facilitate the purposes of this resolution.

The Joint Committee on Legislative Services is hereby authorized and directed to provide suitable quarters for said commission; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate on or before January 2, 2020, and said commission shall expire on April 2, 2020.
This resolution would create a fifteen (15) member special legislative commission whose purpose it would be to make a comprehensive study of, and provide recommendations for, the reorganization of the Rhode Island Coastal Resources Management Council, and who would report back to the Senate on or before January 2, 2020, and said commission would expire on April 2, 2020.