It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 46-23-4.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 46-23 entitled "Coastal Resources Management Council" is hereby amended to read as follows:

46-23-4.1. The commissioner of coastal resources management. The executive director of coastal resources management,

The council governor shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the senate, an executive director of coastal resources management who shall be an employee of the council and who shall not be a member of the council. The executive director shall coordinate and liaison with the director of the department of environmental management, and his or her staff shall be at the same staff level as the other executive directors, and the executive director shall work directly with the other executive directors. The executive director of coastal resources management shall be in the unclassified service. The duties and powers of the commissioner of coastal resources management shall be determined by the council. The council shall not engage a commissioner of coastal resources management for more than five (5) years; provided, however, that the council may renew its contract with the commissioner of coastal resources management. The primary duty and responsibility of the executive director shall be to continue planning for and management of the resources of the state's coastal region.
SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
This act would create the appointment by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, of an executive director of coastal resources management, who shall be an employee of the coastal resources management council who shall coordinate and liaison with the director of the department of environmental management, whose staff shall be at the same levels as other executive directors; work directly with other division leaders; be in an unclassified service; and, whose purpose would be to continue planning and management of coastal resources.

This act would take effect upon passage.