

**Cameron St. Germain**

RI House

District 65

QUESTION 1

Do you support reforming the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) by eliminating the politically appointed council and replacing it with a Department of Coastal Resources?

ANSWER: **Yes****QUESTION 2**

Would you support legislation to create a recycling refund system for beverage containers in Rhode Island?

ANSWER: **Yes****QUESTION 3**

Please share any additional ideas or priorities you would have as a state legislator to improve and protect Narragansett Bay and its watershed.

ANSWER:

As a state legislator, protecting Narragansett Bay and its watershed would be a priority for me. In East Providence, our waterfront is an incredible community asset, but protecting it requires us to prepare for rising sea levels, flooding, pollution, and other growing environmental challenges.

I would support investments in resilient infrastructure, stronger protections for coastal habitats and public access, and efforts to reduce plastic and microplastic pollution before it reaches our waterways. I also believe communities like East Providence need state support to improve stormwater and drainage systems and prepare neighborhoods and local businesses for increased flooding and extreme weather.

The approximately 800,000 gallons of raw, untreated sewage that spilled into Watchemocket Cove in May 2026 represents, in my view, one of the most significant recent failures of government oversight and infrastructure in our community. Incidents like this underscore why we cannot wait until aging infrastructure fails to act. The state must work proactively with municipalities to identify vulnerabilities, invest in necessary upgrades, protect our waterways, and ensure accountability when systems fail.

Finally, environmental policy must include strong accountability. I would support transparent oversight of agencies responsible for protecting our coastline and ensure they have the staffing and resources necessary to enforce environmental protections effectively. Protecting Narragansett Bay is not only an environmental responsibility—it is essential to our economy, public health, quality of life, and the future of Rhode Island.