



**NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SERVICE REPORT FORM**

**Department:** Rhode Island

**Month:** December 2023

**Committee Member Name:** Matthew Baldwin McCoy

**Report:**

1. At 10:00 AM, Monday, December 11, 2023, VFWRI State Adjutant Joe Janeiro and I attended the House Permanent Veteran Advisory Committee meeting at the Rhode Island State House. This is the committee that advises House Veteran Affairs Committee Chairman Samuel Azzinaro and the House Veterans Affairs Committee on which veterans' legislation to advance. Chairman Azzinaro was present, and we are working with him and Jimmy DeCastro on his staff to have the proposed bill introduced when the Rhode Island General Assembly reconvenes in January 2024. The membership of the Advisory committee seemed favorable to the proposed legislation and is expected to endorse the bill at their next meeting in January 2024.
2. I participated in a Zoom call at 3:00 pm, Wednesday, December 20, 2023, with Patrick Murray (Director, National Legislative Service) to discuss the VFW's nation-wide initiative to pass anti-claim shark legislation at the state level. I briefed Patrick on our efforts here in Rhode Island and listened to updates from the National Legislative Committee members from the Departments of California, Hawaii, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin.
3. The Rhode Island General Assembly reconvenes at 4:00 PM, Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Very respectfully,

  
Matthew Baldwin McCoy

**DEPARTMENT OF RHODE ISLAND**

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