

Rod Tomey
26 Waterford Lane
Shelton, CT 06484

The below listed proposed taxes will have a definite negative impact to the boating industry in CT, and are unfair! Someone should evaluate the number of retired or near-retired boaters in CT and ask themselves if these taxes, **particularly the proposed property tax**, are fair. They are not!! Recreational boaters who may be on a fixed income, would undoubtedly be faced with abandoning boating...the ripple effect of this decision would have dire consequences to the states vast marina network and to the hundreds of skilled jobs they represent. If someone thinks that only high-income residents are boaters, they are mistaken. I've been in boating a long time, and most boaters I know are hard working, average folks, who happen to save up enough money for a down payment and are somehow making boat payments monthly. Legislators who think that CT boaters are 'fat cats' with additional disposal income are mistaken and are not in touch with reality.

I understand shared sacrifice, but someone doesn't seem to understand the crippling effect these proposed taxes will have on the CT marine industry. I would hate to think that our currently elected officials would be forever known as those who killed the CT boating industry ---- what a poor legacy!

1. Personal property tax: 2 mils/\$1000 to go to the towns. \$1,000,000 boat would cost the boat owner \$20,000 annually
2. Luxury tax: 3% of sales price over \$100,000. \$1,000,000 boat would incur a luxury tax of \$27,000 at time of purchase
3. Tax on labor: 6.35% tax on labor billings
4. Tax on winter storage: 6.35% tax on winter storage
5. Tax on trade-in value of boat sales: Boat owners would have to pay 6.35% tax on the value of their trade-in when buying a boat. If they buy a \$200,000 boat, and trade in their existing boat worth \$50,000, they have to pay 6.35% on the total \$200,000, or \$12,700.