

Town of North Topsail Beach

Daniel Tuman, Mayor
Michael Yawn, Mayor Pro Tem
Aldermen:
Richard Farley
Deborah Lanci
Richard Macartney
Robert Swantek



Steven H. Foster
Town Manager
Carin Z. Faulkner, MPA
Town Clerk

May 26, 2010

The Honorable Joe Hackney, Speaker
NC House of Representatives
16 W Jones Street Room 2304
Raleigh, NC 27601-1096

RE: Senate Bill 832, (CRC May Permit Terminal Groin)
Resolution 2010-11: A Resolution in Support of Terminal Groin Legislation

Dear Mr. Hackney,

I am Mayor of North Topsail Beach and I also have a residence close to the New River Inlet. I am very aware of the severe erosion problems associated with inlets and the resulting dangers, damage, hardships and anxieties they cause to the residents and property owners close by. Construction of a terminal groin may be the best solution to the problems there. Therefore it is very important that you allow the House chamber to fully consider Senate Bill 832.

As directed by the General Assembly, the Coastal Resources Commission has studied terminal groins. The CRC has stated that they are effective and made specific recommendations on their use. I was present while they heard from experts and during the subsequent discussions among themselves. As someone who has a scientific and engineering background, I can attest to the quality of the information that the Commission heard and to the soundness of the final recommendations they made.

I am reminded that on the day you became Speaker in 2007, you said, "There is no place in the State where the issues of Government and politics are better or more fully debated than in this chamber (*the House*)."

You also said on that day, "Democracy demands the opportunity for competition among ideas, and thrives only when what we produce has been tested and digested by survival in free and open debate." Mr. Speaker, please follow your own advice: Let Senate Bill 832 be heard and debated freely and openly during the 2010 short session.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,


Daniel Tuman
Mayor of North Topsail Beach

Enclosure

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RESOLUTION NO. 2010-11

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TERMINAL GROIN LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, the problem of erosion at the end of barrier islands is unique to those areas and continues to pose a genuine threat to public beach access, public and private property, businesses and infrastructure, creating the risk of significant costs in reconstruction and lost tax revenue;

WHEREAS, North Carolina coastal communities such as North Topsail Beach are in need of every responsible beach management tool available to arrive at a long-term solution to the problems caused by shifting inlets;

WHEREAS, beach nourishment alone has been proven to be insufficient in the inlet areas at the end of barrier islands;

WHEREAS, the New River Inlet, a navigational channel and the Northern boundary of North Topsail Beach has shifted dramatically causing severe erosion and loss of property value;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina General Assembly, in recognition of the significant and unique problems caused by erosion at the end of barrier islands, directed the Coastal Resources Commission to conduct a study of the feasibility and advisability of the use of terminal groins as an erosion control structure;

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resources Commission has completed its study and found that terminal groins, in combination with beach nourishment, can be effective at controlling erosion at the end of barrier islands;

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resources Commission further emphasized the need for site-specific analysis to determine the advisability of the use of terminal groins in specific locations;

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resources Commission further offered a slate of recommendations for environmental and ecological safeguards that emphasize the responsible use of terminal groins as a tool to control erosion at the end of barrier islands;

WHEREAS, the Coastal Resources Commission and the Division of Coastal Management are the most appropriate entities to consider the numerous issues associated with the site-specific use of terminal groins;

WHEREAS, legislation giving the Coastal Resources Commission the authority to consider the use of terminal groins in appropriate circumstances, Senate Bill 832, has passed the North Carolina Senate and is eligible for consideration in the 2010 Short Session of the General Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Aldermen of the Town of North Topsail Beach supports prompt consideration and passage of legislation authorizing the Coastal Resources Commission to consider and allow the use of terminal groins, following site specific study as outlined in its recommendations, and urges the General Assembly to act favorably upon such legislation during the 2010 Short Session of the legislature.

Adopted this the 16th day of April 2010.

(Seal)


Mayor Daniel Tuman

ATTEST:


Carin Z. Faulkner, Town Clerk