



State of Rhode Island  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Seafood Month**

**WHEREAS**, the availability of fresh, local seafood and the variety of our cuisine are part of what makes Rhode Island a special place to live, visit, and grow a family or business; and

**WHEREAS**, October is National Seafood Month, a distinction proclaimed by Congress more than 30 years ago to recognize one of our nation's oldest industries; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Islanders take great pride in their fishing heritage and recognize local seafood as an important part of the state's past, present, and future; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island's fisheries are a public trust that must be conserved and managed because of their ecological value and because they are natural resources with a myriad of benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring a steady supply of fresh, healthy, locally caught seafood is a cornerstone of Rhode Island's food security strategy; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island's fishing and seafood sector is a vital catalyst for our economy that energizes shoreside and other businesses, and adds value throughout the supply and demand chains, with the economic impact of Rhode Island fisheries and seafood totaling nearly 4,400 jobs and \$540 million; and

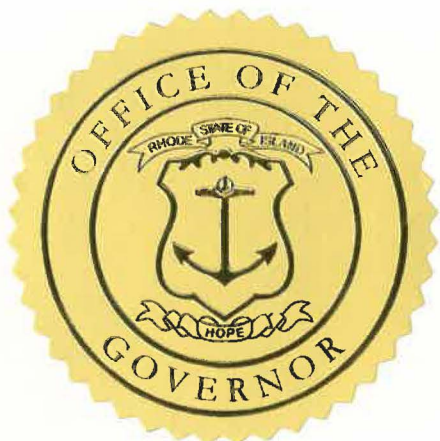
**WHEREAS**, the fishing industry has rebounded strongly from the huge challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, with 2023 commercial total pounds landed valued at \$81.7 million, up by 9.5% over 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island has an incredibly diverse commercial fishery with 102 species harvested and landed in 2023 alone; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Island seafood – squid for calamari and various species of finfish caught year-round – puts Rhode Island on the map around the world.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Daniel J. McKee**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim **October 2024** as *Seafood Month* in the state and encourage all residents to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island this 1<sup>ST</sup> day of October, 2024



**Daniel J. McKee**  
Governor

**Gregg M. Amore**  
Secretary of State