Date

Dear Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

North Carolina Representatives Gregory Murphy (NC-03) and David Rouzer (NC-07) introduced House Resolution 2437 on March 30, 2023. This legislation will revise the boundaries of Unit LO6 of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) in North Topsail Beach, North Carolina.

A large portion of North Topsail Beach was mistakenly included in Map Unit LO6 of the CBRS in 1982. This was despite the fact that a full complement of infrastructure, including roadway, sewer, electrical and public water systems existed in the area prior to the CBRS designation. The area is accessible by a high rise bridge connecting the island to the mainland that was built 14 years prior to the CBRS designation. Of the three similar towns that populate the 26-mile long island, only the Town of North Topsail Beach has a CBRS map unit.

As a North Topsail Beach property owner, I can personally attest to the need for the passage of this legislation to remove these areas from the CBRS. Inclusion within the CBRS has created significant hardship for the town and its property owners in many ways over the years. Most significant are that areas within Map Unit LO6 are ineligible for several federal programs that support development, such as National Flood Insurance, federally guaranteed mortgage loans and federally sponsored shoreline protection and storm restoration projects. One significant hardship created by this situation is that our military veterans are unable to purchase homes within Unit LO6 with loans guaranteed through the Veterans Administration. This is a benefit that was earned through military service, and affects many local veterans, as the Town of North Topsail Beach sits adjacent Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC.

As a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources, I request that you strongly support H.R.2437 when it comes up for committee discussion and action.

Additionally, I request your support for the passage of this very important bill for the Town of North Topsail Beach as it proceeds through the legislative process.

Sincerely,