

Draft Talking Points
H.R. 182, a bill to Reauthorize the Cape Cod National Seashore
Advisory Commission
5.22.2019

- The Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission was established by President Kennedy in 1961 when he signed the Act that founded the Cape Cod National Seashore – a bill which he himself had previously offered when he was a Senator from Massachusetts.
- The Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission was the first Advisory Commission created within the National Park Service, as at the time it was recognized that the unique geographic, economic, and social conditions of the outer cape meant that there was a special need for host communities to have a robust dialogue with the Park, and the Park Service.
- Since that time, the Seashore Advisory Commission has played a critical role in helping the National Seashore and its host communities to share a productive relationship, helping to problem-solve and avoid conflicts between the community and the Seashore. It represents the best in how local communities can work cooperatively with a federal agency
- The Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission has been reauthorized routinely by Congress over the last 60 years. In 2018, this Committee and this House passed H.R. 5585, my bill to reauthorize the Advisory Commission from the 115th Congress, unanimously.

- Today we can advance this common-sense legislation that provides thousands in my community with a forum to address their concerns with the National Seashore.
- Providing testimony about the importance of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission, is one of my most well-respected constituents - Richard Delaney of the Center for Coastal Studies. Mr. Delaney is not only one of the most prominent coastal and Atlantic Right Whale researchers in world but also works on wide range of issues important to my district, not least among them as the Chairman of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.
- I thank the Chair for bringing this bill to a timely hearing. This commission is incredibly important to my constituents, and I appreciate the opportunity to testify during this hearing.