



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
MASSACHUSETTS SENATE

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Chair
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INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

August 26, 2026

The Honorable Maura Healey
Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

RE: New Bedford State Pier

Dear Governor Healey:

I am writing to respectfully request the release of my \$35 million bond authorization and mixed-use vision law for the redevelopment of the New Bedford State Pier. State Pier is an invaluable waterfront asset helping to power the nation's number one commercial fishing port by commercial value. The billions of dollars generated in annual activity and tens of thousands of jobs supported through our harbor are only made possible with safe, reliable infrastructure. Three governors, including you and your administration, have signed my long-fought effort into law and our waterfront can no longer wait for this project to proceed.

For far too long New Bedford State Pier was underutilized and grossly mismanaged. My long-time legislative effort coupled with mixed-use language and a combined \$35 million bond authorization took considerable political capital to get through conference with the House. The effort put MassDevelopment in charge to rectify management concerns while my mixed-use law and bonding authorization have remained readily available to transform this asset into one of the most exciting economic development opportunities in New Bedford. Now is the time to capture this opportunity.

Last year, we were deeply disappointed when an engineering assessment revealed a more dire infrastructure concern than anticipated, which ultimately required MassDevelopment to vacate the East and South wharves. Subsequent assessments have confirmed these findings which indicate the need to reconstruct these two wharves. Nonetheless, we cannot allow this setback to

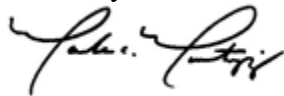
take away from the long-term effort to redevelop this unique public asset into a dynamic waterfront facility.

Our commercial fishermen, longshoremen, and ferry operations all rely on this pier, and we cannot afford to wait any longer to begin the design process for this project. The Commonwealth has put considerable investments into our harbor that the city could not otherwise address on its own. The New Bedford Marine Commerce Terminal, North Terminal, Leonard's Wharf, several privately-owned facilities, and even the dredging of the navigational channel have all benefited from well over \$200 million in state investments. Without these funds, our port and regional economy would suffer.

It is imperative that we now turn our full attention to state pier before our port suffers irreparable harm. Commercial fishing vessels are being squeezed by the need to accommodate cruise ships at a nearby municipal pier after being displaced from state pier. The Schooner Ernestina-Morrissey continues to seek patchwork solutions to ensure her continued presence in New Bedford. Ferry passengers must navigate depleted dock facilities and valuable refrigerated cargo and warehouse space sits empty. This is not acceptable and we must move forward with the necessary capital design work now.

In closing, thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Montigny", written in a cursive style.

Mark Montigny

SENATOR

cc: Secretary Matthew Gorzkowicz, Executive Office for Administration and Finance
Navjeet Bal, President & CEO, MassDevelopment