

Roberta DiMezza

From: Nelson, Tracy <tnelson@CityofNewport.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:14 PM
To: Rep. Mattiello, Nicholas A.; Rep. Shekarchi, K Joseph; Rep. Filippi, Blake A.; Sen. Ruggiero, Dominick J.; Sen. McCaffrey, Michael J.; Sen. Algieri, Dennis L.; Rep. Craven, Robert E.; Rep. Shanley, Evan P.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Sen. Lynch Prata, Erin; Sen. Archambault, Stephen R.; Sen. Metts, Harold M.; SLegislation; Roberta DiMezza
Cc: Robert.Rapoza@elections.ri.gov; rrock@sos.ri.gov; Carol Wordell; Springer, Caitlin
Subject: Letter of support for bills H7896 S2598
Attachments: 2020-07-07 ltr of support for BOE emergency voting bill.docx

Attached please find letter of support from the Newport Canvassing Authority for legislation to be heard by the Honorable House Judiciary Committee this afternoon and the Honorable Senate Judiciary Committee Thursday afternoon.

Thank you.

Best Regards,

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC
Canvassing Clerk



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Canvassing Authority
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July 7, 2020

TO: Honorable House Judiciary Committee and Leadership
Honorable Senate Judiciary Committee and Leadership

RE: House Bill 7896 / Senate Bill 2598

At a meeting held July 7, 2020 the Newport Canvassing Authority, by a majority vote of 2-1, authorized letters of support of the above bills, relative to changes to the emergency voting procedure.

Passage of this legislation will streamline the process for voters casting ballots during the emergency voting period leading up to Election Day. This process change will ensure the local boards continued success during the emergency period with the anticipated increase in the number of voters casting emergency ballots.

This legislation will also increase voter confidence in the process whereas voters will cast their ballots directly into an optical scan machine, as they do at their regular polling locations, and be able to correct ballot errors, which is not an option with the current emergency voting process.

Additionally, local boards would not only see a time savings, but also a cost savings with the process change.

For the reasons aforementioned, the Newport Canvassing Authority, and the Newport Canvassing Clerk, urge you to pass these bills in concurrence.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Yours truly,

Tracy A. Nelson, CMC
Newport Canvassing Clerk