

House Committee on Judiciary
State of Rhode Island General Assembly

March 4, 2026
Testimony in support of House Bill **7434**

Dear Members of the House Committee on Judiciary,

Every eligible citizen has the right to cast a ballot freely, fairly, and accessibly, without fear of deception or intimidation. Additionally, federal law explicitly prohibits the presence of armed federal agents at the polls.

One might think that there's nothing more to say or do. On the other hand, Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem was directly asked about stationing immigration officers at voting locations when she testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday. Her answer was that her agency had "no plans" to do that in November, but she refused to rule it out.

Rather than simply rely on an administration whose stated aims, which are, in the President's words, "We should take over voting," I think it would be a very good idea to have a clear, state-wide law defining what is and isn't allowed. H 7434 fits the bill.

Please support House Bill 7434.

Sincerely,

Douglas R. Grundman
Providence, RI
District 1