



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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March 3, 2026

The Honorable Representative Carol Hagan McEntee
Chair, House Judiciary Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7434 – An Act Relating to Elections – Conduct of Election and Voting Equipment, and Supplies

Honorable Chairwoman Hagan McEntee and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to share the Board's position on House Bill H7434, which is scheduled to be heard by the committee on March 4, 2026. On March 3, the Board voted to support H7434 if amended to include the additional language in the attached amended proposal.

The amendment by the Board would ensure that employees or agents of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) are not disenfranchised if they are entering a polling place to vote or deposit a mail ballot into the appropriate receptacle.

I have been in contact with Representative Giraldo, the bill sponsor, and he indicated that he supports the amended proposal, as presented by the Board. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Miguel J. Nuñez
Executive Director
Rhode Island Board of Elections

cc: Representative Jason Knight, First Vice Chair
Representative Matthew S. Dawson, Second Vice Chair
The Honorable Members of the House Judiciary Committee
Roberta DiMezza, Committee Clerk
Representative Joshua J. Giraldo
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House

H7434-A

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 17-19 of the General Laws entitled "Conduct of Election and Voting 1 Equipment, and Supplies" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

17-19-55. Voting interference.

No federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement employees, agents or officials shall be permitted within two hundred feet (200') of any polling place at which voting is being conducted. [Provided, however, that such employee, agent or official may be present at a polling place for the purpose of voting or returning their own ballot.](#) .

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.