

Steven Sepe

From: Tom Kaiser <tkaiser@proton.me>
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 3:36 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: I support these bills

Good afternoon,
My name is Thomas Kaiser from Portsmouth.
I support the following bills:

HB 5137- A bipartisan bill requiring the Board of Elections to verify the citizenship of all voters. First, citizenship implies a vested interest in the nation—citizens are part of the social contract, bound by its laws, taxes, and responsibilities like jury duty or potential military service. They're not just passersby; they've got skin in the game. Allowing non-citizens to vote could dilute this, giving influence to those who aren't fully tied to the country's long-term outcomes.

Second, it's about sovereignty. Elections shape a nation's direction, and historically, that's been the prerogative of its defined members—citizens. If anyone residing in a country can vote, regardless of legal status, it blurs the line between citizens and non-citizens, potentially weakening the concept of national identity and control over who gets a say.

Moreover, a poll by RMG Research, Inc. Indicates that 86% of voters are in FAVOR of showing proof of citizenship and to vote.

<https://napolitannews.org/posts/voters-strongly-favor-variety-of-election-integrity-measures>

HB 5232- reducing the amount of early voting. The burden of our clerks, election workers and the financial burden on RI citizens of the polls being open for 15 days! prior to election day is what needs immediate attention. Most people are not voting two weeks prior to an election- at most it is days before an election. Having election weeks is not the answer. The answer is reducing the days of voting. Common sense. **Strongly support.**

HB 5711- MAIL BALLOTS - Requires verification of an applicant's date of birth and either a Rhode Island driver's license number or state identification number on all applications seeking mail ballots and emergency mail ballots. **Strongly support.** Mail ballots need to be treated as a person voting in person.

HB 5873- MAIL BALLOTS - Requires verification of an applicant's date of birth and either a Rhode Island driver's license number or state identification number on all applications seeking mail ballots and emergency mail ballots. **Strongly support.**

Thank you,
Mr. Thomas Kaiser
tkaiser@protonmail.com

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.