

Renay Brooks Omisore, Chairperson

Mercedes "Betty" Bernal, Clerk

Rochelle Lee, Commissioner

March 5, 2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections 82 Smith St. Providence, RI 02903

## RE: Providence Board of Canvassers Opposition to house 5232

Dear Chairman Shanley and Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections:

I am writing on behalf of the Providence Board of Canvassers to raise our opposition to House Bill 5232.

The Providence Board of Canvassers does support moving Early Voting out of section 17-20 and placing it in Title 17 Chapter 19 where it does belong. The wording needs to be adjusted as to the implementation of Chapter 19. We also feel 10 days is too short. The Providence Board of Canvassers would be more receptive of a 14-day early voting and having one weekend day leaving it up to the Local Board to determine other times and days. We would also like to see language in the bill regrading special elections. We feel that the SOS, Board of Elections and the RITCCA Elections Committee should work with the sponsor to come up with a bill that will address all our concerns.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions on this legislation, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 401-680-5530, or via email at <u>mnarducci@providenceri.gov</u>.

Very truly yours,

Michel P. Morlinger

Michael Narducci Administrator of Elections