

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** dlennon <dac95112@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 18, 2025 9:26 AM  
**To:** House State Government and Elections Committee; House State Government and Elections Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Carson, Lauren H.  
**Subject:** Support H-5515

Dear Chairman Shanley:

My name is Deborah Lennon and I am a resident of Newport. I am writing to express my strong support for H-5515.

I am supporting H-

5515 because we need to ENABLE voters and voting. In the last presidential election approximately 90 million potential voters did not vote -

some of that was apathy, but many Americans are subjected to restrictions and requirements, including registration deadlines, that are too numerous and difficult to keep track of in their hectic and stressful lives. Rhode Island should not be a state that makes voting more difficult than it has to be!

- \* Eligible voters should not be penalized for missing arbitrary deadlines – which is exactly what Rhode Island's current deadline of 30 days before Election Day is.

- \*Rhode Island's 30-

day voter registration deadline is the longest in the nation, and is one of just three set in any state's constitution.

- \*The 30-

day deadline must be removed from the Rhode Island Constitution before the General Assembly can enact pro-voter reforms like same-day registration.

- \*The resolution is the first step towards increased voting accessibility in Rhode Island. It is vital that the General Assembly acts now in order to pave the way for necessary improvements and modernization.

Implementing H-5515 will be easy and increase efficiency across our electoral system:

- \*Rhode Island already offers same-day voter registration - for presidential elections only, and it's popular - more than 9,000 voters used it in 2024. We don't need to build a whole new system, but rather expand on the existing one.

- \*Election administrators want same-day registration. Everyone who runs elections in Rhode Island, including the Secretary of State, Board of Elections, and Rhode Island Town and City Clerks Association, support this legislation.

- \*Same-day voter registration is effective. States with same-day voter registration have on average THREE TO SEVEN PERCENT HIGHER TURN-OUT RATES.

I hope the House State Government and Elections Committee will pass H-5515.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Deborah Lennon  
Newport, RI