

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley
House State Government and Elections Committee
Tuesday, March 18th 2025

Dear Chairman Shanley,

My name is Kiana Collins and I am a student at Brown University and a member of the organization Every Vote Counts. I have written this testimony to express my support for Resolution H5515, which would move us one step closer to implementing same-day voter registration.

Before Election Day last year, I was involved with tabling on campus to help get those at Brown registered to vote. I remember multiple times during this experience where students were either interested in registering to vote in Rhode Island or had missed the registration deadline in their home state. However, when this occurred during tabling sessions after the 30-day deadline, I can clearly recall the disappointment and confusion when students learned that their voting options would be limited because of Rhode Island's registration deadline far before Election Day. From this experience, I've found that this 30-day registration deadline prevents voters from being able to fully express their voice during elections.

As a student at Brown University and member of Every Vote Counts, I believe Resolution H5515 is extremely important to expanding voter access and dismantling unnecessary roadblocks for all citizens in this state. I hope that you consider passing this piece of legislation to benefit Rhode Islanders.

Thank you for your consideration,
Kiana Collins