



**THE WOMAN PROJECT**  
**EDUCATE • ART • ACT**

**Testimony in Support of H 5515,  
JOINT RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AND PUBLISH  
AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS A PROPOSITION OF  
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION -- OF SUFFRAGE**

March 18, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

I am testifying in support of H5515, a joint resolution to approve and publish and submit to the electors a proposition of amendment to the Constitution of Suffrage.

Our democracy is at its strongest when everyone's voice is heard. Currently, Rhode Island voters who move and do not update their voter registration information at least thirty days before an election are unable to vote a full ballot. Instead, they can only vote provisionally, and most of those provisional ballots are not counted.

If passed, H5515 would give Rhode Island voters the opportunity to amend the state constitution and eliminate the thirty-day voter registration requirement. The current thirty-day requirement is the most restrictive in the nation and the most egregious that is allowed by the courts. Rhode Island should be leading the way as a beacon for voting rights, not falling to the bottom with states like Mississippi and Alabama.

Rhode Island already allows voters to register and cast their ballot on the same day in presidential and vice-presidential elections. In 2020, 6,222 voters used this avenue to express their preferences in those two races, but if they had been allowed to vote a full ballot, those 6,222 Rhode Islanders would have had the chance to weigh in on critically important municipal and statewide issues.

Moreover, in 2024, 9,187 Rhode Island voters used the option to register and cast a limited ballot on the same day. Rhode Islanders use the existing same-day registration infrastructure to participate in presidential and vice-



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presidential elections. Eliminating the thirty-day restriction from the state constitution would allow more Rhode Islanders to become civically engaged in the issues that matter most to their communities.

H5515 is a necessary step towards increasing voter participation and ensuring the voices of every eligible Rhode Island voter are heard.

The Womxn Project is a 501c4 that works toward reproductive justice and freedom in Rhode Island. The movement we stand behind is partially based on ensuring people have access to unbiased educational materials so that they can make good decisions for themselves and their families, with no censorship on tools that inform them of that.

The Womxn Project is a 501(c)4 nonprofit and works toward reproductive rights through LGBTQIA+ protections through a focus of bodily freedom. We use education, policy change and community organizing with activism to make real and lasting change.

The movement we stand behind is based on creating a culture that embraces the human dignity of all people living in Rhode Island and beyond. Without the right to vote and making that process as transparent as well as accessible, bodily freedom and consequently, democracy, is impossible.

Sincerely,  
Tammy Bown, representing The Womxn Project  
P.O.Box 335  
Wakefield, RI 02880