



Town of East Greenwich
BOARD OF CANVASSERS

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March 18, 2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903
Via email House State Government and Elections@rilegislature.com

Re: Opposition of House Bill H5713

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

As the Board of Canvassers Clerk for the Town of East Greenwich, I am writing in opposition of House Bill H5713 which would prohibit members of the Canvassing Authority to be on any other boards including the Town Party Committees.

The majority of members of the local Canvassing Authorities for municipalities are also members of the local party committees. These members are chosen and appointed from lists provided by the local party committees. In East Greenwich, all but one of the members of my board are also members of the local party committees. If this law is passed, the Town will be required to replace most of the members of the Board including those experienced in running a local election.

Passage of this bill would have a huge negative impact on our Town as well as other municipal Canvassing Boards. I respectfully ask that this bill be rejected.

Very Truly Yours,

Elaine M Vespa
Deputy Town Clerk/Canvassing Clerk

Cc: Leigh Carney, Town Clerk, Peter Gorski, Mary Ellen Winters, Mary Therese Moran, Patricia Colgan (East Greenwich Board of Canvassers), Senator Bridget Valverde, Representative Justine Caldwell, Representative Evan Shanley