

Steven Sepe

From: Sara V <saravieira803@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 12:27 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee; Rep. Nardone, George A.
Subject: Oppose HB 5517

My name is Sara Vieira and I am from Coventry. I oppose and do not support HB 5517.

Not operating small precincts ensures they will need to be handled by larger administration centers. What eventually happens, due to overload and inability to process in-person, is an expansion of mail-in voting. Large vote centers remove the transparency of precinct level voting and ensure no hand counting can take place and renders elections entirely un-auditable. In Texas, there have been problems related to ballot secrecy in which voter ballots and choices can be called up.

The bottom line is, larger precincts or vote centers require different methods of getting the vote in that gets around the problem of too many people in one space, and does not allow for rapid tabulation and reporting of ballots, and the ability for local community figures to verify and recognize voters.

This bill will be moving RI towards vote centers- think Maricopa County. There will be hardships on the electorate regarding how to authenticate voters within a precinct. It also presents a burden to local clerks and poll workers due to larger precincts leading to more problems.

Thank you ,
Sara Vieira