



Town of Jamestown

CANVASSING AUTHORITY
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www.jamestownri.gov

January 12, 2026

The Honorable Members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections
82 Smith St.
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for H-7007, H-7049 (Election Admin. Bills)

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

I am writing to request the **support** of the House for two bills that have received widespread backing from various state and local election officials. Both H-7007 and H-7049 propose essential operational adjustments that will make for efficient elections administration, that will benefit local election offices:

H-7007 reinstates the option for electronic mail ballot returns for voters covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) and voters with disabilities. This provision was effective until December 31, 2025; passing this bill ensures these voters maintain accessible and reliable methods for returning their ballots.

H-7049 proposes moving the 2026 Primary Day from Tuesday, September 8th, to Wednesday, September 9th. This change ensures that municipalities can accommodate the required early voting period on Tuesday while holding the primary on Wednesday. By separating these dates, we can reduce the logistical challenges and voter confusion that occur when early voting locations also serve as primary day precincts. This bill provides a clear, common-sense solution for the 2026 election cycle.

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate your support you, if you have any questions regarding these bills, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 401-423-9801 or via email at kford@jamestownri.net.

Very truly yours,

Keith Ford
Deputy Town Clerk / Clerk to the Board of Canvassers
Town of Jamestown

Cc: Chairperson, Jamestown Board of Canvassers