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From: info@nfbri.org
Sent: Wednesday, January 14, 2026 3:17 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: Testimony in Support of H. 7007

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Testimony in Support of H7007

Dear House State Government and Elections committee members:

I am writing on behalf of the members of the National federation of the Blind of Rhode Island to urge your support for the passage of H. 7007 which entitles disabled and military voters to utilize electronic transmitted ballots. Passage of this legislation will provide equal access for voters with disabilities to vote independently and privately from home. All other eligible absentee voters can vote at home. If this legislation is not passed, voters who cannot see, hold, or mark a paper ballot will once again be forced to give up their right to vote independently and privately, vote at a polling location if they are able or not vote at all. This is unequal access to the ballot for voters who are blind or visually impaired. Let us not go back.

During the 2024 elections I received an email from one of our members telling me how empowering it was for him to once again be able to vote independently. He had not voted independently since he became blind. There are many stories like this one. The passage of this legislation will comply with Title II of the ADA and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act accessibility standards as well as make mail ballots accessible to all blind and visually impaired individuals who choose this method of voting.

Please support H.7007 and maintain accessible mail ballots in Rhode Island. We have the right to equal access to fully participate in all aspects of the electoral process. Having a disability must not be a barrier to voting. Thank you for your time and consideration of this crucial matter.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely

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