



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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January 15, 2026

The Honorable Representative Evan P. Shanley
Chair, House State Government and Elections Committee
State House
Providence, RI 02903

RE: Support for 2026 H7007 – An Act Relating to Elections – Mail Ballots

Dear Chairman Shanley and Members of the Committee,

The Board of Elections held a meeting on January 13, 2026 and voted to support **H7007 - An Act Relating to Elections – Mail Ballots**. This proposal would make permanent the secure electronic transmission of mail ballots from our service members and citizens overseas and voters with disabilities. The Board of Elections staff is directly involved and has sole access to the secure portal as well as accessing these encrypted marked ballots.

In the 2024 General Election, **1,871** military/overseas and disabled voters returned their ballots privately and securely using the portal, which is required to meet rigorous security requirements. Removing access to the portal would eliminate a critical and necessary method for our servicemen and women and voters with disabilities to continue to cast their ballot in an efficient, private, and timely manner in future elections.

Respectfully submitted,

Miguel L. Nuñez
Executive Director
Rhode Island Board of Elections

cc: Representative Mary Messier, First Vice Chair
Representative Arthur J. Corvese, Second Vice Chair
The Honorable Members of the House State Government and Elections Committee
Steve Sepe, Committee Clerk
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House