

Testimony on House Bill 7007
An Act Relating to Elections – Mail Ballots

January 14, 202

Chairman Shanley and members of the House Committee on State Government & Elections,

My name is Myles Brawn-Husband. As a Rhode Island resident and voter, living with Cerebral Palsy, I'm writing to urge your full support for House Bill 7007. For me, the current paper-based mail ballot system is not accessible. Because of my condition, the fine motor skills required to mark a physical ballot, handle multiple envelopes, and seal them correctly are incredibly difficult tasks.

Beyond my own challenges, I also live with my elderly grandparents, Carol and Gene. As they age, navigating the physical requirements of traditional mail-in voting has become increasingly burdensome for them as well. Ensuring that our household has access to a modern, accessible, and electronic way to vote is vital for all of us.

Currently, I cannot vote with true privacy or independence because I often have to rely on others to assist me with the physical paperwork. While I value the support of my family, I believe that every citizen—regardless of their physical disability or age—should have the right to cast a vote on their own with complete privacy.

H 7007 would allow me to use an electronically transmitted ballot. This would enable me to use my own assistive technology at home to mark my ballot and return it securely and privately. This system is already available to military and overseas voters, and it is time that Rhode Islanders with disabilities and our seniors are granted that same level of accessibility and dignity.

I want to be able to cast my own vote independently. Passing H 7007 ensures that my voice is heard and that my disability is no longer a barrier to my constitutional right to vote.

Thank you.

Myles Brawn-Husband
336 Cove Avenue
Warwick RI 02889
myles.school@gmail.com