



*Distinctive Communities  
Powerful Alliance*

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Evan P. Shanley, Chair  
House State Government and Elections  
Rhode Island State House  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

RE: HOUSE BILL 7782 – AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPLIES

Chair Shanley and Honorable Committee Members,

On behalf of the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, we write to express our support for House Bill 7782, which would extend the period to request a recount of votes from seven (7) days to nine (9) days, and ensure that no certificates of election are issued until any recount is completed.

This legislation, introduced on behalf of the State Board of Elections, addresses an inconsistency in current law that establishes different recount request deadlines for federal candidates compared to state and local candidates. This discrepancy creates unnecessary confusion and has the potential to undermine the uniform administration of elections across jurisdictions.

By standardizing the timeline, House Bill 7782 promotes fairness, clarity, and consistency in the electoral process. Allowing additional time for recount requests helps ensure that all candidates are afforded a reasonable opportunity to seek a review of election results, while also supporting election officials in conducting thorough and accurate recounts.

Maintaining public confidence in the integrity of our elections is of the utmost importance. This bill represents a practical and thoughtful step toward strengthening election administration practices in Rhode Island.

We respectfully urge your favorable consideration of House Bill 7782.

Thank you for your consideration, and we appreciate your commitment to fair and transparent elections in Rhode Island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randy R. Rossi".

Randy R. Rossi  
Executive Director

Cc: Honorable Members of House State Government and Elections Committee