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Testimony on behalf of: House Bill No. 7788: AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PRIMARIES FOR ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS AND FOR PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE (Establishes the Ranked Choice Voting for Rhode Island Presidential Primaries and provides for new sections on ranked choice voting tabulation and results reporting.)

Why I support this bill:

I am a strong supporter of Ranked Choice Voting. It would enable people to vote for any candidate they prefer (i.e a third-party candidate), without the fear that they would be "wasting their vote" and actually helping their LEAST preferred candidate win. I have been voting for over 50 years, and unfortunately I have been forced many times to vote for candidates from one of the two major parties, because I feared my vote for an alternate candidate would actually result in "the worst person winning". This happened to me in the 80's and I vowed it would never happen again. That is NO way to elect good people at any level of government. It is also why we are stuck with the Two-Party System (which we all hate - but we will not have better and more varied candidates to choose from without RCV). I would love to be able to vote for a third-party candidate, knowing that if they do not win, my vote would be transferred to my next-preferred candidate, instead of essentially helping elect the worst.