

Steven Sepe

From: dlennon <dac95112@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2026 12:43 PM
To: House State Government and Elections Committee; Rep. Shanley, Evan P.
Cc: Lauren Carson; Sen. Euer, Dawn
Subject: I OPPOSE House Bill H-7380 Banning Ranked Choice Voting

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Dear Committee Chair Shanley and Committee Members,

My name is Deborah Lennon and I reside in Newport in District 75.

I am writing to VEHEMENTLY OPPOSE House Bill 7380 which would ban the use of Ranked Choice Voting and to urge the Committee to kill this un-democratic bill now.

Ranked Choice Voting would be an improvement over the flawed and divisive party primary system we currently use in RI. Party Primaries attract the most partisan voters and result in limited, less optimal choices for voters in general elections because only partisan, often extremist, candidates make it onto the ballot. The primary system is extremely un-democratic in that it results in candidates that reflect Party ideology and prerogatives which the general election voters don't necessarily embrace. It limits voters' choices. In contrast Ranked Choice Voting allows all voters to express their preferences for candidates, plural, potentially leading to one of their preferred candidates and their campaign priorities prevailing vs forcing voters to choose all-or-nothing candidates and party priorities.

The recent NY City election where Mayor Mamdani was elected is proof of how improved the process and outcomes are using Ranked Choice Voting. The race was focused on candidates' actual priorities and agendas and allowed candidates to cross-endorse candidates so that agendas and priorities could move forward even if the candidate did not prevail. NYC elected a mayor who truly represents the majority and best welfare of its residents.

Sincerely,
Deborah Lennon
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