

Steven Sepe

From: Cathy Saunders <cwsaunders@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 16, 2026 9:14 AM
To: Rep. Shanley, Evan P.; House State Government and Elections Committee
Subject: I support H-8334 Voting Rights Act

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Dear Representative Shanley and members of the House Committee on State Government and Elections:

I am writing to ask the House Committee on State Government and Elections to recommend passage of the bills and urge the full House to pass RI VRA this session.

Today you will hear testimony from many supporters of this bill from organizations like Common Cause and the League of Women Voters. You will also hear from numerous individuals who have professional or personal experience that demonstrate the need for a state Voting Rights Act. Having sat through the testimony at the Senate hearing, I can say that all put together, there is a compelling case for this legislation.

Voting is a gateway to increased civic engagement. It inspires people to be aware of political issues and join community organizations — leading to increased civic health for the community as a whole. Since 2020 I have served as a poll worker (supervisor & clerk) in primaries and general elections. I've watched the pride in community that people feel when they vote. That pride has countless ripple effects for Rhode Island.

Respectfully,
Catherine Saunders
Providence, RI