

To: the Rhode Island House Judiciary Committee

From: Sheila O'Connell and Cindy Capra, on behalf of the RI-WTF! Resistance Collective

Subject: Please support the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act, H-8334

As members of a group of 40+ concerned Rhode Island voters, we ask that you give your unequivocal support to the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act, H-8334. Our voting rights are under attack from the current administration, and neither the DOJ nor the Supreme Court is likely to protect us. We look to you, our state elected officials, to make sure we can vote in elections that are free and fair to all, and that no one who is now legally able to vote will be disenfranchised.

The Rhode Island Voting Rights Act contains provisions to:

- Prohibit voter suppression, especially for people of color
- Prohibit partisan gerrymandering and other forms of vote dilution
- Prevent intimidation of voters by ICE or other federal agent presence at the polls
- Protect voters from discrimination based on marital status, gender identity, disability or other protected class
- Provide language assistance to voters in applicable communities
- Allow individuals or groups whose voting rights are violated to sue in state court

This is a non-partisan issue that potentially affects all voters in our state. The outcome of elections should be decided by the voters, not by partisan politics or a corrupt administration. We urge you to champion the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act and to do everything you can to make sure it is enacted.

Sincerely,

The RI-WTF! Resistance Collective