

December 16, 2021

Honorable Stephen H. Archambault
Honorable Jessica de la Cruz
Honorable Walter Felag Jr
Honorable Ana Quazada
Honorable Gordon Rogers
Honorable Susan Sosnowski
Mr. Ryan Taylor, Consultant to the Commission on Reapportionment

Dear Mr. Co-Chairman and Senate Commission Members:

The Pawtuxet Village Association (PVA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) community organization dedicated to protecting and preserving the structures, community, and history of the National Historic District. Pawtuxet Village encompasses sections of Warwick and Cranston and is unique in its bi-city relationship.

As such, we are carefully monitoring the work of the Commission on redistricting that could possibly change the district representation for the Pawtuxet Village area.

The PVA recommends that the Commission maintain unified state representation for Pawtuxet Village in its entirety, for both Warwick and Cranston.

In sum, it is critical for the overall welfare of the Village that our elected state officials represent the entire Village on such matters as state zoning, road maintenance and repair (e.g., Narragansett Pkwy in Warwick is a state road), and the upcoming reconstruction of the historic Village bridge over the Pawtuxet River that serves as the border between the Warwick and Cranston sides. Also, the upcoming 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the burning of the Gaspee in 2022 in the Village involves the RI 250<sup>th</sup> Commission established in June by Sec. of State Gorbea and includes Village residents of both cities. This celebration drew national attention at the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary - we should expect no less interest for the 250<sup>th</sup>. Unified state representation will greatly enhance planning, collaboration and the combined cities Village celebration itself.

Furthermore, as the National Historic District of Pawtuxet spans both Warwick and Cranston, the PVA regularly finds it necessary to work with both municipalities and elected officials. And, at the state level, we rely on our State Representative (Joseph McNamara) and Senator (Kendra Anderson), since their respective districts represent the entirety of Pawtuxet Village in both Warwick and Cranston. We hope that this successful collaboration will continue unimpeded by not having multiple elected representatives as a result of redistricting.

We thank you for your support in our request for maintaining unified elected state representation for Pawtuxet Village, in both the House and Senate.

Respectfully yours,