
FW: SUPPORT - S3143, the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act

From SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

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To Senate Judiciary Committee <SenateJudiciary@rilegislature.onmicrosoft.com>

From: Cedric Ye <cedric.ye9@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 8:12 PM

To: SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

Subject: SUPPORT - S3143, the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act

You don't often get email from cedric.ye9@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Chair LaMountain and honorable members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Cedric Ye, and I live in Providence. As a high school student who will cast a vote for the first time this November, I am writing to urge you to please support S3143.

My first vote will occur during one of the most dangerous times for voting rights in our nation's modern history. According to the Brennan Center for Justice

(<https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/timeline-trump-administrations-efforts-undermine-elections>), since taking office, Trump's Department of Justice has cancelled or withdrawn support from Voting Rights Act lawsuits in the Supreme Court (Callais v. Landry), Virginia, Texas, and Houston County, Georgia. Appointed cabinet officials have also threatened retaliation against election officials and law firms on the basis of a "stolen" 2020 election. In an age of rapidly increasing authoritarianism and attempted disenfranchisement, it is obvious that we cannot rely on the federal government or courts to enforce the Voting Rights Act. Without outdated state level protections, there has never been a more urgent time to encode the Voting Rights into state law before it is too late to save our democracy. I urge you to please pass S343 favorably out of committee and ensure that if the federal government fails to protect the right to vote, Rhode Island will.

Sincerely,
Cedric Ye

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