

FW: In Support of S3143

From SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

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



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From: Cristina DiChiera <dichieraconsulting@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 6, 2026 6:27 PM

To: Sen. LaMountain, Matthew L. <sen-lamountain@rilegislature.gov>; SLegislation <slegislation@rilegislature.gov>

Subject: In Support of S3143

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Dear Senate Judiciary Committee -

I am writing in support of Bill S3143, The Rhode Island Voting Rights Act. I have lived in Rhode Island since 2000, and am a home owner in Foster.

Having served as a poll worker in 2020, I know that Rhode Island's election officials are hard-working, thorough and honest. I have complete faith that every state's election officials are equally committed to the integrity of their elections. Donald Trump has said on national television that Republicans "should take over the voting"; Speaker Mike Johnson has said that election results in "blue states" like California "just look on [their] face to be fraudulent" and, of course, most of the Trump Administration has insisted that the 2020 election was "stolen". As this administration guts critically important government agencies, abuses American citizens, invades sovereign nations, and relentlessly attacks anyone who attempts to hold them to account - voting is the only tool that American citizens have against this bizarre, sycophantic, autocratic, unhinged presidency. We must protect our elections process.

The RI Voting Rights Act will prohibit voter suppression and racial vote dilution so communities of color are not denied real voting power. It will strengthen protections against voter intimidation and obstruction at the polls. It will ban discrimination in voting based on religion, sex, sexual

orientation, gender identity/expression, disability, country of ancestral origin, or marital status. It will require language access for voters with limited English proficiency so every eligible voter can participate effectively. It will create a private right of action and a “democracy canon,” giving people tools in state court and directing judges to interpret election laws in a pro-voter, pro-democracy way.

With federal Voting Rights Act protections under sustained attack, states are stepping up by passing strong State Voting Rights Acts. Let's make sure Rhode Island voters are protected!

I humbly ask the Senate Judiciary Committee to recommend passage of S3143 and urge the full Senate to pass RIVRA this session.

Thank you,

Cristina M DiChiera

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