

**Testimony on Senate Bill 3143**  
**An Act Relating To Elections – Rhode Island Voting Rights Act**

April 7, 2026

Chairman LaMountain and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

My name is Myles Brawn-Husband, and I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 3143, the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act.

Ensuring that every Rhode Islander has equal access to the ballot is fundamental to a functioning democracy. As federal protections face ongoing challenges, it is critical that our state takes proactive steps to safeguard the right to vote for all citizens, regardless of their race, disability, or primary language.

Senate Bill 3143 provides essential protections by:

- **Preventing Voter Suppression:** It prohibits policies that create material disparities in the ability of protected classes to participate in the political process.
- **Ensuring Language Accessibility:** The mandate for translated ballots and bilingual assistance is a necessary step for our diverse communities to cast informed votes.
- **Accountability and Transparency:** The creation of a public data repository and the use of judicial pre-approval for jurisdictions with a history of violations will help prevent disenfranchisement before it happens.

A fair and accessible election system is the bedrock of our state. By passing this act, Rhode Island can ensure that every voice is heard and every vote is protected.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass Senate Bill 3143.

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