

To: Chairman Matthew L. LaMountain Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary From:
Zachary Gauthier Date: April 7, 2026 Re: Support for Senate Bill 3143 – The Rhode Island
Voting Rights Act

Dear Chairman LaMountain and Members of the Committee,

My name is Zachary Gauthier, and I am a resident of Johnston. I am reaching out to you today because I care deeply about the people in our community and the human side of our democratic process.

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 3143. To me, this isn't just about rules and regulations—it is about the fundamental respect we owe to every single person in Rhode Island. Voting is how we look out for one another and how we make sure that everyone's voice is actually heard by those in leadership.

When we work to remove barriers, like language differences or confusing changes, we are telling our neighbors that they matter. This bill is a common-sense way to protect the dignity of every voter. It ensures that the path to being heard is clear and fair for everyone, no matter where they come from or which neighborhood they live in.

Rhode Island has always been a place where we take care of our own. By supporting the Rhode Island Voting Rights Act, you are helping to ensure our elections reflect that same spirit of fairness.

I respectfully urge the committee to pass this bill. Thank you, Chairman LaMountain, and the entire committee, for your time and for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Zachary Gauthier