

Roberta DiMezza

From: Aseem Rastogi <arastogi29@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 8:00 PM
To: Rep. Shekarchi, K Joseph
Cc: Rep. Fogarty, Kathleen A.; Roberta DiMezza; Rep. Tanzi, Teresa A.
Subject: Support H5036 for Committee votes on top three priorities

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Dear Speaker Shekarchi and Chair Fogarty,

I'm writing in support of H5036, to allow each House member to prioritize three bills that are being held for further study to receive votes in committees. This would be an important reform of a practice that is a source of frustration for me and many of my fellow Rhode Islanders.

Members of the public take the time to attend hearings on issues we care about, too often without resolution. We are relying on our elected officials to craft legislation with their constituents in mind, and these bills often die in committee without ever reaching a discussion or the house floor. That is, frankly, unacceptable.

The change proposed by H5036 would afford policy committees the opportunity to work with bill sponsors to consider amendments and arrive at a thoughtful recommendation for or against passage. If it's a sound policy, it should be passed. If not, it should be voted down. Or, if it needs more work it could be referred to a Commission.

Further, as was pointed out in the Rules Committee, this provision has the potential to reduce the glut of bills that are reintroduced year after year and will lead to actual progress - something we should demand.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aseem Rastogi
Chair, Indivisible Rhode Island
Pawtucket, RI

The Human Component is Undefeated.