

I am writing first to thank you for serving in the General Assembly.

H 5036

Next, I want to express my great concern about the fact that you have been prevented from voting on other important issues. Consider these examples:

- Legislation to close the loophole that allows payday lenders to charge up to 260% interest has been stalled for 14 years.
- Legislation to stop the sale of assault weapons, which is supported by the majority of people in this state, has been stalled for 12 years.

It has come to my attention that a legislative majority is blocked year after year by a small minority within the General Assembly.

When you are prevented from voting in our legislature, your opinion is unrepresented, and by default then so is mine. This lack of democratic process also impedes accountability at the ballot box. Voters are unable to evaluate the candidates' records on many issues of public interest.

There are several ways you could work with others to remedy this problem. For example, a committee could decide that legislation must be brought to the floor for a vote:

- If it has been in study for three sessions or more, or
- If it has more than 33% of the seated representatives or senators as co-sponsors.

I look forward to hearing back from you, especially if you have other ideas about how to overcome these barriers to the democratic process in Rhode Island.

I am writing first to thank you for serving in the General Assembly.

H 5036

Next, I want to express my great concern about the fact that you have been prevented from voting on other important issues. Consider these examples:

- Legislation to close the loophole that allows payday lenders to charge up to 260% interest has been stalled for 14 years.
- Legislation to stop the sale of assault weapons, which is supported by the majority of people in this state, has been stalled for 12 years.

It has come to my attention that a legislative majority is blocked year after year by a small minority within the General Assembly.

When you are prevented from voting in our legislature, your opinion is unrepresented, and by default then so is mine. This lack of democratic process also impedes accountability at the ballot box. Voters are unable to evaluate the candidates' records on many issues of public interest.

There are several ways you could work with others to remedy this problem. For example, a committee could decide that legislation must be brought to the floor for a vote:

- If it has been in study for three sessions or more, or
- If it has more than 33% of the seated representatives or senators as co-sponsors.

I look forward to hearing back from you, especially if you have other ideas about how to overcome these barriers to the democratic process in Rhode Island.

I am writing first to thank you for serving in the General Assembly.

H 5036

Next, I want to express my great concern about the fact that you have been prevented from voting on other important issues. Consider these examples:

- Legislation to close the loophole that allows payday lenders to charge up to 260% interest has been stalled for 14 years.
- Legislation to stop the sale of assault weapons, which is supported by the majority of people in this state, has been stalled for 12 years.

It has come to my attention that a legislative majority is blocked year after year by a small minority within the General Assembly.

When you are prevented from voting in our legislature, your opinion is unrepresented, and by default then so is mine. This lack of democratic process also impedes accountability at the ballot box. Voters are unable to evaluate the candidates' records on many issues of public interest.

There are several ways you could work with others to remedy this problem. For example, a committee could decide that legislation must be brought to the floor for a vote:

- If it has been in study for three sessions or more, or
- If it has more than 33% of the seated representatives or senators as co-sponsors.

I look forward to hearing back from you, especially if you have other ideas about how to overcome these barriers to the democratic process in Rhode Island.

I am writing first to thank you for serving in the General Assembly.

H 5036

Next, I want to express my great concern about the fact that you have been prevented from voting on other important issues. Consider these examples:

- Legislation to close the loophole that allows payday lenders to charge up to 260% interest has been stalled for 14 years.
- Legislation to stop the sale of assault weapons, which is supported by the majority of people in this state, has been stalled for 12 years.

It has come to my attention that a legislative majority is blocked year after year by a small minority within the General Assembly.

When you are prevented from voting in our legislature, your opinion is unrepresented, and by default then so is mine. This lack of democratic process also impedes accountability at the ballot box. Voters are unable to evaluate the candidates' records on many issues of public interest.

There are several ways you could work with others to remedy this problem. For example, a committee could decide that legislation must be brought to the floor for a vote:

- If it has been in study for three sessions or more, or
- If it has more than 33% of the seated representatives or senators as co-sponsors.

I look forward to hearing back from you, especially if you have other ideas about how to overcome these barriers to the democratic process in Rhode Island.