

## Roberta DiMezza

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**From:** Charles B. Ortman <cbortman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 21, 2025 2:26 PM  
**To:** Rep. Shekarchi, K Joseph; Rep. Fogarty, Kathleen A.  
**Cc:** Roberta DiMezza; Rep. Tanzi, Teresa A.  
**Subject:** Support H5036 for Committee votes

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 many.

Members of the public take the time to attend hearings on issues we care about, too often without resolution.

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.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rev. Charles Blustein Ortman  
Commissioner on Immigration, Acting Treasurer, Rhode Island State Council of Churches  
Minister Emeritus, Unitarian Universalist Cong. at Montclair, NJ

"We are given life to find its meaning." --Eleanore Gordon