Rhode Island Town and City Clerks' Association



ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

March 17, 2025

The Honorable Members of the House State Government and Elections Committee 82 Smith St.

Providence. RI 02903

RE: Rhode Island Town and City Clerks' Association Support for Elections Legislation before the House State Government and Elections Committee

Dear Chairman Shanley and Members of the House State Gov't. & Elections Cmte.:

The membership of the RITCCA voted at its quarterly meeting on Jan. 31, 2025 to <u>support</u> the following legislation that is now before the House State Government and Elections Committee:

H-5514 - Streamlines efficient printing of early voting and Election Day ballot styles.

H-5515 – Authorizes the General Assembly to modify the state's voter registration deadline.

H-5516 - Ensures all write-in votes are published, and hand-tabulated when necessary.

H-5517 – Prevents existing polling locations from being unnecessarily split up into two locations.

H-5518 – Requires early voting to be advertised in newspapers, and on municipal websites.

H-5709 - Streamlines the process to get on the automatic mail ballot application mailing list.

H-5872 - Modernizes election laws to account for the growth of AI in communications.

H-5381 – Corrects operational deficiencies in the time period between the primary and general.

The RITCCA Elections Committee also <u>supports</u> the following legislation, which will be considered by the Association membership at the next RITCCA meeting on April 25, 2025:

H-5084 – Allows local boards to enforce 50-foot campaign buffer zones at early voting sites.

H-5311 – Matches existing best practices allowing the state BOE to tabulate local mail ballots.

H-5312 – Improves election security by clarifying local board of canvassers appointments.

H-5384 - Corrects an operational issue with the deadline for requesting an election recount.

H-6092 – Allows for future implementation of an online nomination paper signature portal.

The RITCCA is the state's association of municipal clerks and election officials. We respectfully request the Honorable House of Representatives consider passage of this legislation that holds the widespread support of local election officials throughout Rhode Island.

Very truly yours,

Nicholas J. Lima Chairperson

RITCCA Elections Committee