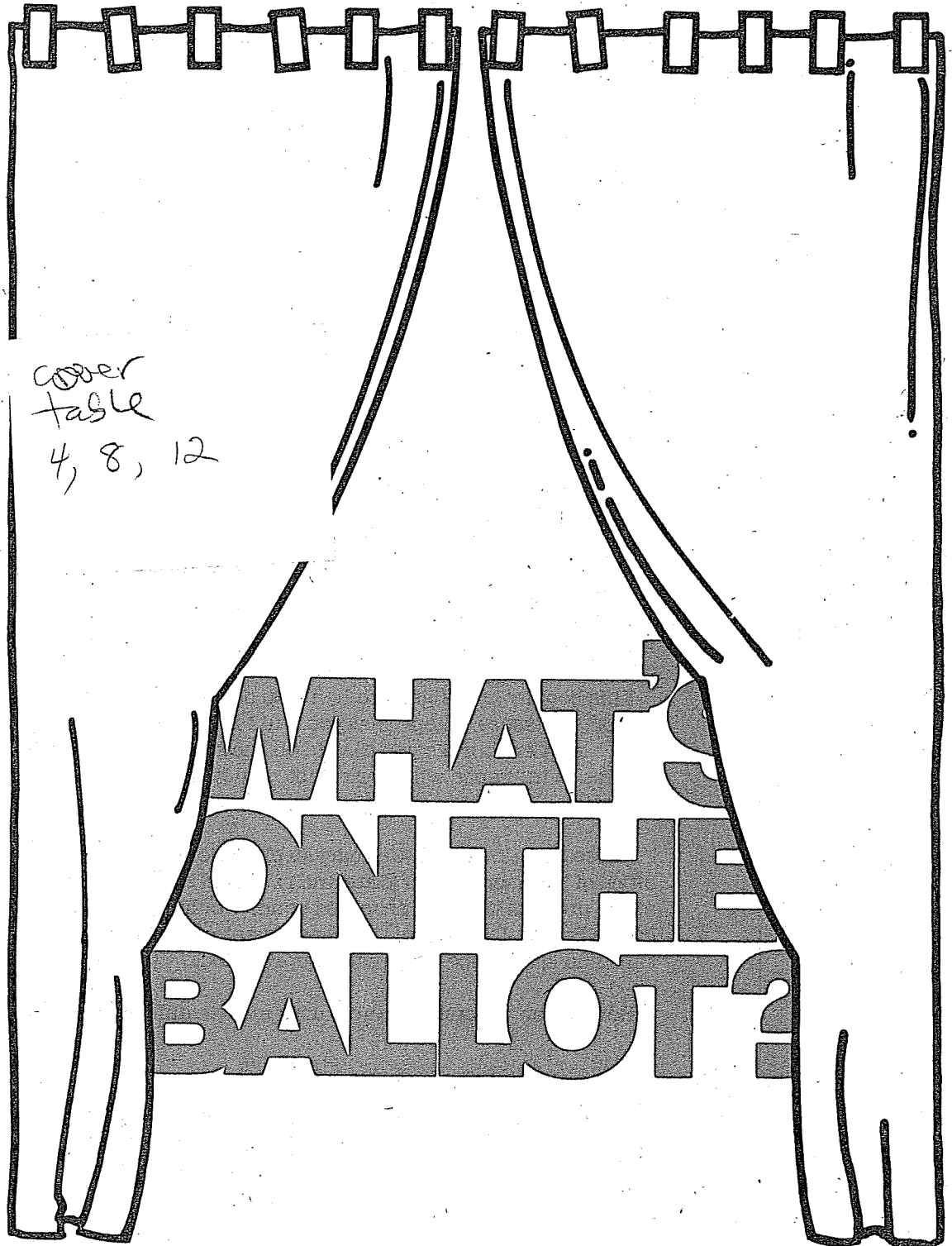


Nov 6, 1984

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
Susan L. Farmer, Secretary of State

# Voter Information #7 Referendum



Sent to all households in the State of Rhode Island, as required by law.

# A Message From Secretary of State Susan L. Farmer



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
STATE HOUSE  
PROVIDENCE  
02903

Susan L. Farmer  
Secretary of State

Dear Voter:

On Tuesday, November 6, 1984 a general election will be held. You will have an opportunity to vote on a constitutional convention, two constitutional amendments and ten bond referendums authorized by the Governor and the General Assembly to appear on the ballot. On the following pages, you will find the questions as they appear on the ballot, summary explanations of each question, and some useful information about voting in Rhode Island.

This booklet is designed to help you decide how to vote on these important issues. I hope that you will take a few minutes to read it. Above all, I encourage you to vote on these questions. This is your chance to influence whether or not money will be spent on these projects.

These questions and summary explanations were prepared by the office of the Secretary of State and reviewed by bond counsel. Details of the projects that the proposed bonds would finance were provided by the Budget Division of the Department of Administration. Their time and assistance are greatly appreciated.

Remember to vote! Your vote does make a difference

Sincerely,

Susan L. Farmer  
Secretary of State

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# Constitutional Amendments and Official Statewide Referendums

November 6, 1984

## **1. Constitutional Convention**

Shall there be a convention to amend or revise the Constitution?

## **2. Constitutional Amendment — Suffrage**

Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will restore the right to vote to those convicted of a felony automatically upon the completion of their prison sentence or upon the completion of their period of parole or probation. Presently, persons convicted of a felony may have their right to vote restored only by an Act of the General Assembly.

## **3. Constitutional Amendment — Bail**

Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will allow bail to be denied those charged with committing offenses involving the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon if proof of their guilt is evident or the presumption great and if such individuals have been previously convicted of either an offense including the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon or of an offense punishable by imprisonment for life. Presently, a person charged with committing an offense can be denied bail only if the offense is punishable by life imprisonment, if the proof of the person's guilt is evident or the presumption great.

## **4. Higher Education Bonds — \$2,200,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,200,000 for the establishment of a high-technology and management-science facility at Rhode Island College.

Referendums (continued)

## **5. Elementary and Secondary Education Bonds — \$2,600,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,600,000 for the updating of equipment at the state vocational schools and for energy conservation and other improvements at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf.

## **6. Environmental Management Bonds — \$3,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$3 million for the acquisition and development of and improvements to state port facilities in support of the state's fishing industry.

## **7. Emergency Telephone System Bonds — \$5,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$5 million for the planning, design, purchase, and installation of a statewide emergency telephone system (a so-called "E911" system).

## **8. Environmental Response Fund Bonds — \$5,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to partially fund the Environmental Response Fund which shall be administered by the Department of Environmental Management in order to study, evaluate, and remedy hazardous-waste sites.

**9. Sewerage and Water Supply  
Failure Fund  
Bonds — \$5,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to establish a fund to provide financial aid to homeowners who incur expenses in remedying failed septic or water supply systems, and to make grants to cities and towns for up to 1/2 the cost of extending lateral sewer lines and public water systems to areas experiencing multiple failures of septic or water supply systems.

**10. Mental Health, Retardation,  
and Hospitals  
Bonds — \$8,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$8 million for the construction of, or for the acquisition of and renovations to, community-group facilities for retarded, multi-handicapped, and mentally ill persons; for the purchase of equipment and furnishings for these facilities; and for the replacement of equipment at institutional facilities and for the renovations and repairs to heating, power, and related utility systems.

**11. Transportation  
Bonds — \$9,975,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$9,975,000 for the further development and improvement of non-interstate highways; for the reconstruction, resurfacing, and rehabilitation of the interstate highway systems; and for bridge replacement and highway-safety projects.

**12. Corrections  
Bonds — \$10,600,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$10,600,000 for the construction and equipping of a self-contained medium-security facility, to include work, recreational, and support service areas.

**13. Heritage Capital Development  
Program Bonds — \$14,000,000**

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$14 million for capital development to be allocated as follows:

- a.) \$4 million to administer loans to be made for the acquisition and restoration of property: \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Historical Preservation Commission, and \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Natural Heritage Preservation Commission;
- b.) \$4 million for the Department of Environmental Management to acquire scenic and recreation areas, and \$4 million for restoration and improvements to the State House; the expenditures can also include the costs of related activities, such as reports and studies, the buying of equipment and furnishings, the payment of relocation expenses, and so forth.
- c.) \$2 million to acquire development rights to farmlands in accordance with guidelines established by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission.

**Constitutional Amendments and  
Official Statewide Questions  
as they will appear on the Ballot**

**November 6, 1984**

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | 1 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION</b><br/>(Rhode Island Constitution, Article XLII, §2)<br/>Shall there be a convention to amend or revise the Constitution?</p>  |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT — SUFFRAGE</b><br/>(Resolution #352 — Acts and Resolves of 1984)<br/>Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will restore the right to vote to those convicted of a felony automatically upon the completion of their prison sentence or upon the completion of their period of parole or probation. Presently, persons convicted of a felony may have their right to vote restored only by an Act of the General Assembly.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JOINT RESOLUTION</b><br/>to Approve and Publish; and Submit to the Electors a Proposition of Amendment to the Constitution of the State (Suffrage)<br/><b>RESOLVED</b>, That a majority of all the members elected to each house of the general assembly voting therefor, the following amendment to the constitution of the state be proposed to the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of article XLII of amendments to the constitution, for their approval to be denominated article of amendments:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARTICLE OF SUFFRAGE</b><br/><b>SECTION 1.</b> Persons qualified to vote. — Every citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen (18) years or over who has had his residence and home in this state for thirty (30) days next preceding the time of voting, who has resided thirty (30) days in the town or city from which he desires to vote, and whose name shall be registered at least thirty (30) days next preceding the time of voting as provided by law, shall have the right to vote for all officers to be elected and on all questions submitted to the electors, except that no person who has been lawfully adjudicated to be non compos mentis shall be permitted to vote. Nor shall any person otherwise qualified to vote as provided in this article be permitted to vote while serving a prison sentence, on parole or subject to probation on final conviction of a felony unless or until the franchise shall have been restored by an act of the general assembly. Upon completion of such sentence, parole or probation the franchise shall be restored.<br/>The general assembly may provide by law for shorter state and local residence requirements to vote for electors for president and vice president of the United States.<br/><b>SECTION 2.</b> This admendment shall take, in the constitution of the state, the place of section 1 of Article XXXVIII of the constitution, which said section and all other provisions of the constitution inconsistent herewith are hereby annulled.</p> |

Ballot (continued)

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT — BAIL</b><br/>(Resolution #342 — Acts and Resolves of 1984)<br/>Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will allow bail to be denied those charged with committing offenses involving the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon if proof of their guilt is evident or the presumption great and if such individuals have been previously convicted of either an offense including the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon or of an offense punishable by imprisonment for life. Presently, a person charged with committing an offense can be denied bail only if the offense is punishable by life imprisonment, if the proof of the person's guilt is evident or the presumption great.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JOINT RESOLUTION</b><br/>to Approve and Publish, and Submit to the Electors a Proposition of Amendment to the Constitution of the State (Bail)<br/><b>RESOLVED</b>, That a majority of all the members elected to each house of the general assembly voting therefor, the following amendment to the constitution of the state be proposed to the qualified electors of the state in accordance with the provisions of article XLII of amendments to the constitution, for their approval to be denominated article of amendments:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ARTICLE</b><br/><b>SECTION 1.</b> Bail - Habeas Corpus. — A. All persons imprisoned ought to be bailed by sufficient surety, unless for offenses punishable by imprisonment for life or for offenses involving the use or threat of use of a dangerous weapon by one already convicted of such an offense or of an offense punishable by imprisonment for life, when the proof of guilt is evident or the presumption great. Nothing in this section shall be construed to confer a right to bail pending appeal of a conviction.<br/>B. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety shall require it; nor ever without the authority of the general assembly.<br/><b>SECTION 2.</b> This amendment shall take, in the constitution of the state, the place of section 9 of article 1 of the constitution; which said section and all other provisions of the constitution inconsistent herewith are hereby annulled.</p> |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 | <p style="text-align: center;">1984 Capital Development Program<br/><b>HIGHER EDUCATION — BONDS — \$2,200,000</b><br/>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of Rhode Island 1984)<br/>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,200,000 for the establishment of a high-technology and management-science facility at Rhode Island College.</p>  |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 | <p style="text-align: center;">1984 Capital Development Program<br/><b>ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION — BONDS — \$2,600,000</b><br/>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of 1984)<br/>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,600,000 for the updating of equipment at the state vocational schools and for energy conservation and other improvements at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf.</p>   |

Ballot (continued)

|   |           |   |
|---|-----------|---|
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>6</b>  | 1984 Capital Development Program<br><b>ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT — BONDS — \$3,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$3 million for the acquisition and development of and improvements to state port facilities in support of the state's fishing industry.   |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>7</b>  | <b>EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM — BONDS — \$5,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 155 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$5 million for the planning, design, purchase, and installation of a statewide emergency telephone system (a so-called "E911" system).  |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>8</b>  | <b>ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE FUND — BONDS — \$5,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 403 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to partially fund the Environmental Response Fund which shall be administered by the Department of Environmental Management in order to study, evaluate, and remedy hazardous-waste sites.  |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>9</b>  | <b>SEWERAGE AND WATER SUPPLY FAILURE FUND — BONDS — \$5,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 420 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to establish a fund to provide financial aid to homeowners who incur expenses in remedying failed septic or water supply systems, and to make grants to cities and towns for up to 1/2 the cost of extending lateral sewer lines and public water systems to areas experiencing multiple failures of septic or water supply systems.   |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>10</b> | 1984 Capital Development Program<br><b>MENTAL HEALTH, RETARDATION, AND HOSPITALS - BONDS - \$8,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$8 million for the construction of, or for the acquisition of and renovations to, community-group facilities for retarded, multi-handicapped, and mentally ill persons; for the purchase of equipment and furnishings for these facilities; and for the replacement of equipment at institutional facilities and for the renovations and repairs to heating, power, and related utility systems. |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>11</b> | 1984 Capital Development Program<br><b>TRANSPORTATION — BONDS — \$9,975,000</b><br>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$9,975,000 for the further development and improvement of non-interstate highways; for the reconstruction, resurfacing, and rehabilitation of the interstate highway systems; and for bridge replacement and highway-safety projects.   |

Ballot (continued)

|   |           |  |
|---|-----------|--|
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>12</b> | 1984 Capital Development Program<br><b>CORRECTIONS — BONDS — \$10,600,000</b><br>(Chapter 156 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$10,600,000 for the construction and equipping of a self-contained medium-security facility, to include work, recreational, and support service areas.   |
| APPROVE <input type="checkbox"/><br>REJECT <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>13</b> | <b>HERITAGE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM — BONDS — \$14,000,000</b><br>(Chapter 155 — Public Laws of 1984)<br>Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$14 million for capital development to be allocated as follows:<br>a.) \$4 million to administer loans to be made for the acquisition and restoration of property: \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Historical Preservation Commission, and \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Natural Heritage Preservation Commission;<br>b.) \$4 million for the Department of Environmental Management to acquire scenic and recreation areas, and \$4 million for restoration and improvements to the State House; the expenditures can also include the costs of related activities, such as reports and studies, the buying of equipment and furnishings, the payment of relocation expenses, and so forth.<br>c.) \$2 million to acquire development rights to farmlands in accordance with guidelines established by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission. |



# Explanation of Constitutional Amendments and Statewide Questions

November 6, 1984

## 1. Constitutional Convention

**Shall there be a convention to amend or revise the Constitution?**

### Call of Constitutional Convention

The Secretary of State has placed the question of the calling of the Constitutional Convention on the ballot, pursuant to Section 2 of Article 42 of the State Constitution that provides that, if the question of calling a Constitutional Convention is not submitted by the General Assembly to the voters during any ten-year period, the Secretary of State must submit it to the voters at the next general election.

If a majority of the voters vote to hold a Constitutional Convention, then it will be the responsibility of the 1985 General Assembly to enact legislation determining the method of election of delegates, setting forth an election schedule, and appropriating funds for the Convention to function.

The General Assembly, at its 1983 session, created a bi-partisan commission to assemble information on constitutional questions for the electors. That Commission, which reported July 5, 1984, recommended that the voters vote for a Constitutional Convention at the 1984 General Election and further, if a Constitutional Convention is to be held, that the delegates be elected on a non-partisan basis.

A Constitutional Convention, if held, could propose an entirely new Constitution for adoption or rejection by the voters; it could propose individual amendments to the Constitution; or it could re-write the basic document while presenting what appears to be the most controversial issues to the voters in the form of supplemental amendments, thus allowing individual decisions on each.

The Commission did not take a position on particular issues; it did recommend that the voters should consider, among others, the following issues: four-year terms for the state's General Officers and Legislators, legislative pay, the size of both houses of the General Assembly, reapportionment of the General Assembly, equal rights, initiative, referendum, and the tenure and selection of Supreme Court Justices.

Explanation (continued)

## 2. Constitutional Amendment — Suffrage

**Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will restore the right to vote to those convicted of a felony automatically upon the completion of their prison sentence or upon the completion of their period of parole or probation. Presently, persons convicted of a felony may have their right to vote restored only by an Act of the General Assembly.**

## 3. Constitutional Amendment — Bail

**Approval of this Amendment to the state Constitution will allow bail to be denied those charged with committing offenses involving the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon if proof of their guilt is evident or the presumption great and if such individuals have been previously convicted of either an offense including the use, or the threat of use, of a dangerous weapon or of an offense punishable by imprisonment for life. Presently, a person charged with committing an offense can be denied bail only if the offense is punishable by life imprisonment, if the proof of the person's guilt is evident or the presumption great.**

## 4. Higher Education

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,200,000 for the establishment of a high-technology and management-science facility at Rhode Island College.**

\$2,200,000. This money would be used to remodel and convert a gymnasium at Rhode Island College into a center for Industrial and Business Technology. The project would meet the rapidly growing demand for academic programs in this area by providing a modern facility with computerized laboratories for instruction, research, and public service in such fields as Electronics, Manufacturing, Materials Processing and Testing, Graphics, Design, and Typesetting.

The renovation plan calls for the installation of a second floor within the existing structure and the construction and equipping of classrooms and laboratories. It also includes installation of insulation and air conditioning, an increase in electrical service, and alterations to existing heating and exhaust systems.

## 5. Elementary and Secondary Education

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$2,600,000 for the updating of equipment at the state vocational schools and for energy conservation and other improvements at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf.**

\$1,500,000. This money would be used to continue the program of modernizing vocational education equipment, facilities, and support systems throughout the state.

\$600,000. This money would be used for the purpose of energy conservation improvements at the vocational education schools throughout the state.

\$500,000. This money would be used for the purpose of modernizing the antiquated heating and ventilating systems at the school. This includes sound proofing the building against highway noises which effect the hearing devices worn by children at the Rhode Island School for the Deaf.

## 6. Environmental Management

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$3 million for the acquisition and development of and improvements to state port facilities in support of the state's fishing industry.**

\$3,000,000. This money would fund the first phase of a two phase project to improve the state's port facilities. The total cost for both phases would be \$6,000,000. This question would provide funds for purchase and construction of commercial fishing port facilities in Newport Harbor, for construction of docks, utilities and related improvements at the port of Galilee and for other potential fishing port projects.

This project is part of the state's economic development plan to support and stimulate the state's fishing industry.

## 7. Emergency Telephone System

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$5 million for the planning, design, purchase, and installation of a statewide emergency telephone system (a so called "E911" system).**

\$5,000,000. This money would be used for planning, design, purchase and installation of a statewide emergency telephone system. This system would enable persons requiring immediate police, medical and

continued

fire assistance to dial 911 on their home telephones and automatically have their request for assistance processed at one of the emergency control centers to be established. The bond money will be administered by an E911 Uniform Emergency Telephone System Public Authority.

## 8. Environmental Response Fund

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to partially fund the Environmental Response Fund which shall be administered by the Department of Environmental Management in order to study, evaluate, and remedy hazardous-waste sites.**

\$5,000,000. Approval of this project will enable Rhode Island to respond to hazardous waste problems through investigation, analysis, waste disposal, clean up, containment, and legal prosecution of persons or organizations contributing to the problem.

Funds will be used in conjunction with Federal Hazardous Waste Superfund money or for activities not eligible for Superfund participation.

## 9. Sewerage and Water Supply Failure Fund

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow not more than \$5 million to establish a fund to provide financial aid to homeowners who incur expenses in remedying failed septic or water supply systems, and to make grants to cities and towns for up to one-half the cost of extending lateral sewer lines and public water systems to areas experiencing multiple failures of septic or water supply systems.**

\$5,000,000. This money would be used to make low-interest loans to individuals for the repair or replacement of a failed individual sewage disposal system or to finance the connection of a failed system to a public sewage system. Individuals with a contaminated water supply would be provided financial support for a connection to another water supply system.

Grants would also be made available to city and town governments for up to one-half the cost of extending public water systems to areas experiencing contaminated water supplies and for up to one-half the cost of extending lateral sewer lines to areas experiencing multiple individual sewage disposal system failures.



## 10. Mental Health, Retardation, and Hospitals

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$8 million for the construction of, or for the acquisition of and renovations to, community-group facilities for retarded, multi-handicapped, and mentally ill persons; for the purchase of equipment and furnishings for these facilities; and for the replacement of equipment at institutional facilities and for the renovations and repairs to heating, power, and related utility systems.**

### (A) Community Residential Program

This program is a continuation of the plan of the Department of MHRH to enable patients and clients to live in community-based residences rather than institutions, whenever appropriate. These residences include both group homes and supervised apartments.

**\$800,000.** This money would allow the Department of MHRH to construct or acquire and renovate group homes for approximately 30 mentally disabled clients.

**\$3,000,000.** This money would enable approximately 90 mentally retarded persons to live in community residences.

**\$1,500,000.** This money would create approximately 36 placements in group homes and enable the movement of patients out of the pediatric unit at the Dr. U.E. Zambarano Memorial Hospital.

**\$250,000.** This money would be used to purchase furniture and equipment for approximately 60 cooperative apartments for chronically mentally disabled persons.

### (B) Community Support Program

**\$450,000.** This money would provide funds to establish and equip small, self-supporting businesses to employ mentally disabled people. Businesses currently operating include a small bakery/cookie store and a plant/garden supply store, both located in downtown Providence. Each business would cost approximately \$150,000 to establish and would be operated by a non-profit organization.

### (C) Institutional Improvements

**\$520,000.** This money would be used to upgrade wards in the Louis Pasteur Building of the General Hospital in order to better meet the special needs of General Hospital oncology patients.

**\$1,480,000.** \$800,000 would be used at the Central Power Plant at the Cranston Complex to upgrade steam distribution lines and other utilities,

continued

for repairs, and for energy conservation purposes. \$680,000 would be used to make general improvements at the Rhode Island Medical Center, the Dr. Joseph H. Ladd Center and the Dr. U. E. Zambarano Memorial Hospital, including major interior and exterior repairs to protect buildings and to replace worn out equipment.

## 11. Transportation

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$9,975,000 for the further development and improvement of non-interstate highways; for the reconstruction, resurfacing, and rehabilitation of the interstate highway systems; and for bridge replacement and highway-safety projects.**

**\$9,975,000.** This money would be used to continue implementation of the state's long-term plan for further development and improvement of non-interstate highways, including primary, secondary, and urban systems; reconstruction, resurfacing, and rehabilitation of interstate systems; bridge replacement, highway safety projects, sidewalks, and traffic signals.

The Department of Transportation has developed and published a six-year schedule of projects this bond money would help finance along with federal grants. Some projects ineligible for federal subsidy and financed entirely by the state also would be included, such as salt storage shelters.

Approval of this bond issue would provide state highway funds that would enable Rhode Island to obtain nearly \$50,000,000 in federal highway improvement grants.

## 12. Corrections

**Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$10,600,000 for the construction and equipping of a self-contained medium-security facility, to include work, recreational, and support service areas.**

**\$10,600,000.** Approval of this question would enable the Department of Corrections to respond to the increasing population at the state's adult correctional institutions. Funds would be used to construct and equip a self-contained, medium-security facility which will have the capacity to house at least 160 medium-security classified inmates and provide space for work, training, security, and other support services.

### 13. Heritage Capital Development Program

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to borrow \$14 million for capital development to be allocated as follows:

a.) \$4 million to administer loans to be made for the acquisition and restoration of property: \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Historical Preservation Commission, and \$2 million in accordance with guidelines established by the Natural Heritage Preservation Commission;

b.) \$4 million for the Department of Environmental Management to acquire scenic and recreation areas, and \$4 million for restoration and improvements to the State House; the expenditures can also include the costs of related activities, such as reports and studies, the buying of equipment and furnishings, the payment of relocation expenses, and so forth.

c.) \$2 million to acquire development rights to farmlands in accordance with guidelines established by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission.

#### Historical Preservation Revolving Fund

\$2,000,000. This money would allow the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission to provide low-interest loans for historic preservation projects undertaken by private individuals, organizations, or local governments.

#### Natural Heritage Preservation Revolving Fund

\$2,000,000. This money would be used for low or interest free loans to cities and towns or conservation organizations with the approval of cities and towns for the purpose of preserving scenic, environmentally important, or unique open space. This money would be administered by a Commission created under the Heritage Preservation Legislation.

#### Recreation Area Development

\$1,500,000. This money would be used to rebuild the Scarborough beach area, including construction of new restrooms and concession facilities, a new boardwalk, a parking and picnic area, and landscaping.

\$2,500,000. This money would be used to help create a linear park along the historic Blackstone River; protect natural areas of the Wood-Pawcatuck River system; purchase other important unprotected natural areas for scenic easements; and stabilize the stonework at Fort Adams State Park.

#### State House Restoration

\$4,000,000. Of this money \$3,585,000 would be used for exterior repairs to the State House to prevent any further deterioration of the building. Approximately \$415,000 of this money would be used to replace old, broken, deteriorated windows with others which would increase the energy efficiency of the building.

#### Farmland Preservation

\$2,000,000. This money would be used to purchase development rights of prime farmland from local farmers. This is a continuation of the Farmland Preservation Program administered by the Agricultural Lands Preservation Commission.

## Voting in Rhode Island

### Registration

#### Who May Register To Vote?

Any citizen of the United States who has been a resident of Rhode Island and of the city or town in which he/she wishes to vote for at least 30 days and who will be at least 18 years old before election day may register to vote.

You MUST register no later than October 6, 1984, if you want to vote at the November 6, 1984, election.

#### How Often Must I Register?

Registration is permanent in Rhode Island. You will not need to register again unless:

- you change your name
- you move to another city or town
- you do not vote at least once every 5 years

If you move within your community, notify your local board of canvassers in writing.

### **How Do I Register If I Am Ill or Disabled?**

If you are unable to appear at the local board in person because of illness or physical or mental disability you may apply in writing to the local board for registration forms. Your application must be accompanied by a certificate from a licensed physician or Christian Science practitioner containing the following information:

- location of the physician's or practitioner's medical offices
- date of last examination
- statement that because of illness or disability you are unable to register in person.

You will be sent a registration form which you will sign and have witnessed and return to the local board.

### **How Do I Register To Vote?**

You may register by going to your local board of canvassers which is usually located at the city or town hall. Office hours are generally 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Registrars are often available during special evening hours and at other locations. Call your board of canvassers.

When you register, you will be asked to give your name, address, place and date of birth, and the date you last moved to or within Rhode Island. You must also sign the registration form.

You will also be asked to show at least one of the following proofs of residence for voting purposes:

- Address on driver's license
- Address on automobile registration
- Address from which your last federal or state income tax was filed
- Address given to obtain credit cards
- Address given to financial institutions where you have accounts, insurance companies or organizations of which you are a member
- Address given to tax collector for notification purposes in communities where you own taxable property
- Address given to your employer
- Address given to government agencies with which you have contact

### **Verification of Residence**

When you register for the first time or change your address, a card will be sent to the address from which you register. It must be signed and returned to the board within 15 days. If your signature does not match the one on your registration form or if you do not return the card YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO VOTE.

## **Voting on Election Day**

### **Where Do I Vote?**

Your voting district is determined by your place of residence. Watch the newspaper for the announcement of polling places and times, or call your local board of canvassers.

### **How Do I Identify Myself At The Polls?**

When you enter the polling place, you will be given a ballot application form which you will sign. Your signature will be compared with that on your original registration card in order to prove your identity.

If you have registered, but your name is not found on the voting list at the polling place, go to the local board of canvassers. They will make out a temporary certificate of registration. Return to the polls and VOTE.

### **If I Vote in a Primary, Will I Continue to be Identified with that Party?**

When you vote in a primary, you must declare your party affiliation which will be binding until you sign an affidavit removing your name from party rolls. Affidavits must be made available at all primary polling places so that the voter can change party affiliated status immediately after voting in the primary. You may fill out this form at the polling place or take it with you. However, it must be returned to your local board at least 90 days before the next primary election in which you wish to vote.

You may sign nomination papers for any candidate running for office, regardless of party affiliation.

### **How To Use A Voting Machine**

**Activating the machine:** Before entering the booth, push in (or in some cases pull out) the plunger on the lower right side of the booth. Enter the booth and push the large handle all the way to the right to close the curtains. If you need help after this, DO NOT USE THE LEVER TO OPEN THE CURTAIN. Instead, part the curtain with your hands and ask to speak to the warden. If you are legally blind, you may bring someone into the booth to assist you. Otherwise, if anyone comes inside to help you, there must be two people — each from different parties.

**Voting:** Push the small levers downwards until an X appears next to the candidates of your choice. Leave the levers down. If you change your mind, push the lever back up and push another one down. If the name of the candidate of your choice does not appear on the ballot, you may write-in the name in the small slots provided at the left of the machine.

## Voting (continued)

Remember, once you open the sliding door over the write-in space, you cannot change your mind and vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot for that office. Ask the warden for instructions.

**Recording your vote:** After you have checked over the ballot, pull the large handle to the left; this opens the curtains and records your vote in the machine. You may take this flyer or any other materials into the booth to assist you in voting.

### Mail Ballots

#### Who Is Eligible To Vote By Mail Ballot?

Registered voters may vote by mail only if:

- you will be absent from the state on election day during the entire time when the polls are open
- you will be absent from the city or town of your voting residence because of your status as a student or spouse of a student at an institution of higher learning within this state more than 20 miles from your polling place
- you are ill or physically or mentally disabled and such condition is attested to by a physician or Christian Science practitioner in writing
- you are confined in a hospital, rest home, convalescent home, nursing home or similar institution
- you are being detained while awaiting trial or imprisoned for any cause other than final conviction of a felony
- you are forbidden by the tenets of your religious faith from voting on election day
- you will be temporarily absent from the state because of employment or service connected with military operations or are a spouse or dependent of such person

#### How Do I Apply For A Mail Ballot?

You must obtain an application form from your local board of canvassers. This application is in the form of an affidavit which you will fill out and have notarized or witnessed. This application may be hand delivered or mailed to the local board so that it will be received by 4:00 p.m. on the 21st day before election day (by October 16, 1984, to qualify for the November 6, 1984, election).

If you are requesting a mail ballot because of illness or physical or mental disability, your application must be accompanied by a certificate from a physician or Christian Science practitioner. If you are permanently

## Voting (continued)

disabled, you may have this certificate filed with the board for a 5 year period during mail ballot applications will be sent to you automatically for each election. If your condition changes you must notify the board.

Mail ballots may be mailed to you or to a local board of canvassers depending on the circumstances of your application. Your ballot must be received by the Board of Elections by 9 p.m. on election day.

### Emergency Mail Ballot

#### Who Is Eligible For An Emergency Mail Ballot?

You are eligible for an emergency mail ballot if:

1. you are a qualified and registered voter
2. circumstances arise within 20 days of an election that would make you eligible to vote by mail ballot.

#### How Do I Get An Emergency Mail Ballot?

An application for an emergency mail ballot can be obtained from your local board of canvassers. This application must be delivered to the local board no later than 12:00 noon on the day before the election, November 5, 1984. If you are applying for an emergency mail ballot on medical grounds, you must include a certificate from a physician or Christian Science practitioner attesting that the illness or disability did not manifest itself until 20 days or less prior to the date of the election.

Emergency mail ballots may be mailed to you, delivered to a person presenting written authorization from you or delivered by a bipartisan pair of supervisors depending on the circumstances of the application.

Your emergency mail ballot must be received by the Board of Elections no later than 9:00 p.m. on election day.

Any person who makes a false certificate in registering his name, votes or attempts to vote fraudulently or any physician or practitioner who makes a false certificate or any person who aids or abets such persons may be guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for a term of not more than 10 years or by a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 or both.

### Priority For Elderly Voters

There will be one voting machine at each polling place which will be designated for priority use by voters over 65 years of age or with an obvious medical disability. Such voters, upon request, shall be permitted to vote immediately on the designated machine. Other voters below the age of 65 years may use this machine when there are no voters above that age waiting to vote.

# Susan L. Farmer Secretary of State

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## Local Boards of Canvassers

|                 |                                     |          |                  |                                   |          |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Barrington      | Town Hall, 283 County Rd.           | 245-3103 | Newport          | City Hall, 43 Broadway            | 846-9600 |
| Bristol         | Town Hall, 10 Court St.             | 253-7000 | New Shoreham     | Town Hall                         | 466-2409 |
| Burrillville    | Town Hall, 70 Main St., Harrisville | 568-4300 | North Kingstown  | Town Hall, 80 Boston Neck Rd.     | 294-3331 |
| Central Falls   | City Hall, 580 Broad St.            | 724-4502 | North Providence | Town Hall, 2000 Smith St.         | 232-0900 |
| Charlestown     | Town Hall, S. County Trail          | 364-7718 | North Smithfield | Town Hall, Main St., Slatersville | 767-2200 |
| Coventry        | Town Hall, 670 Flat River Rd.       | 821-6400 | Pawtucket        | 200 Main St.                      | 722-8989 |
| Cranston        | City Hall, 869 Park Ave.            | 461-1000 | Portsmouth       | Town Hall, 2200 E. Main Rd.       | 683-3157 |
| Cumberland      | Town Hall, 45 Broad St.             | 728-2400 | Providence       | City Hall, 25 Dorrance St.        | 421-7752 |
| East Greenwich  | Town Hall, 111 Pierce St.           | 884-4410 | Richmond         | Town Hall, Wyoming                | 539-2497 |
| East Providence | City Hall, 145 Taunton Ave.         | 434-3311 | Scituate         | Town Hall, Main St., No. Scituate | 647-7466 |
| Exeter          | Town Hall, Victory Highway          | 294-3891 | Smithfield       | Town Hall, 64 Farnum Pike, Esmond | 231-6600 |
| Foster          | Town Hall, So. Killingly Rd.        | 397-7771 | South Kingstown  | Town Hall, 66 High St., Wakefield | 789-9331 |
| Glocester       | Town Hall, Main St., Chepachet      | 568-6206 | Tiverton         | Town Hall, 343 Highland Rd.       | 624-4277 |
| Hopkinton       | Town Hall, Town House Rd.           | 377-2220 | Warren           | Town Hall, 514 Main St.           | 245-7340 |
| Jamestown       | Town Hall, 71 Narragansett Ave.     | 423-0200 | Warwick          | City Hall, 3275 Post Rd.          | 738-2000 |
| Johnston        | Town Hall, 1385 Hartford Ave.       | 351-6618 | West Greenwich   | Town Hall, Victory Highway        | 397-5016 |
| Lincoln         | Town Hall, 100 Old River Rd.        | 333-1100 | West Warwick     | Town Hall, 1170 Main St.          | 822-9203 |
| Little Compton  | Town Hall, The Commons              | 635-4400 | Westerly         | Town Hall, Broad St.              | 596-0341 |
| Middletown      | Town Hall, 350 E. Main Rd.          | 849-5548 | Woonsocket       | City Hall, 169 Main St.           | 762-6400 |
| Narragansett    | Town Hall, 25 Fifth Ave.            | 789-1044 |                  |                                   |          |