

# H7100

Rep. Katherine Kazarian



# S2007

Sen. Dawn Euer

The pandemic has changed the way we live our lives — including how we vote. The 'Let RI Vote Act' improves access and opportunity to vote in Rhode Island.

## MAJOR PROVISIONS:

### **Voter List Maintenance**

Enhances the state's existing voter registration list maintenance process to ensure records are up-to-date by requiring the Secretary of State to update the voter file a minimum of four times per year.

### **Braille Ballot Application Deadline**

Reduces application deadline for voters to request a Braille ballot, from 45 days to 21 days before an election.

### **No Witness / Notary Requirement**

Removes the two witness / notary requirement to vote by mail. The voter's identity will be confirmed by a signature verification process.

### **Multilingual Voter Information Hotline**

Requires that the Secretary of State establish a permanent multilingual voter information hotline.

### **Apply for a Mail Ballot Online**

Allows voters to apply for a mail ballot using an online form. This will save the state money and time, while reducing risk that a form is lost, damaged, or that manual data-entry results in clerical errors.

### **No-Excuse Mail Ballots & Emergency Voting**

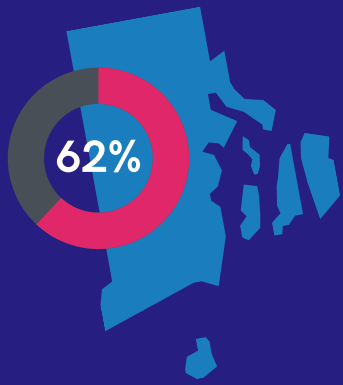
Permits any voter to apply for and cast a mail ballot or an emergency mail ballot without having to provide an excuse.

### **Ballot Drop Boxes**

Requires at least one ballot drop box for each community, to be maintained and regulated by the Board of Elections. Voters may return mail ballots to the secure drop boxes until the close of polls on Election Day.

### **Permanent Absentee List**

Expands eligibility for nursing home residents to opt-in to automatically receive an application for a mail ballot.



In the 2020 General Election, 62% of Rhode Islanders voted early in-person or by mail, compared to 38% at a polling place on Election Day.

## SUPPORT FOR LET RI VOTE ACT PROVISIONS



Support permanently removing the witness / notary requirement to vote by mail



Support an online option to request a mail ballot

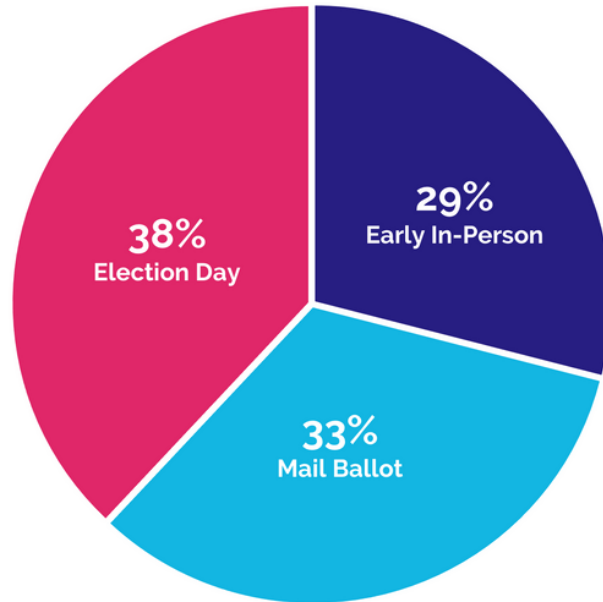


Support a 20 day early voting period before Election Day



Support allowing voting by mail without any excuse or special circumstance required

\*Poll results released April 30 2021, conducted by Lincoln Park Strategies, commissioned by partners of the Let RI Vote campaign.



## HOW RHODE ISLAND VOTED IN THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION\*

\*Source - RI Board of Elections

During the 2020 election, emergency measures temporarily expanded voting access giving more Rhode Islanders the opportunity to vote by mail or early in-person than ever before in state history, resulting in record voter turnout.

It's time to codify the policies that expanded access to the ballot for voters in 2020. The RI General Assembly can modernize and improve voting access in Rhode Island by passing the Let RI Vote Act.

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