



Public Testimony
House Judiciary Committee
Re: Early Voting
House Bill 5700

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Submitted by The Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty

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The Rhode Island Interfaith Coalition to Reduce Poverty is a coalition of diverse religious communities and advocacy partners throughout the state who have come together to fight poverty.

We are writing to express our support for **House Bill 5700**, in-person early voting.

As our colleagues at the RI Coalition for the Homeless have noted, this bill will provide expanded access for homeless voters. Many very low-income individuals juggle difficult schedules and face significant barriers to transportation access. This bill, if enacted, allows an in-person voting experience for these individuals and for others who may have access or mobility challenges that make it difficult to get to the polls during the designated hours on election day. An expansion of early voting allows individuals more flexibility to fit voting into their lives conveniently and easily.