

Resolution to eliminate straight party vote

Whereas, Rhode Island converted to an up-to-date optical election system a decade ago, but retained the straight party vote option, and

Whereas, retention of the straight party vote option results in confusion at the polls and under-votes for local candidates, especially in cases of nonpartisan elections, and

Whereas, the straight party option discourages qualified individuals to seek elected office, and

Whereas, elimination of the straight party vote option would cause no harm and would contribute to increased voter participation in the election process, and

Whereas, Rhode Island needs to join its neighboring states in the Northeast in modernizing its voting practices by eliminating the straight party vote option, and therefore be it

Resolved, Rhode Island needs to encourage more candidates to run for office to give the electorate more choice in elections, by requiring voting for the individual, not the party, and be it further

Resolved, the (town group here) supports the repeal of the straight party vote option on the ballot in future elections and will mail this resolution to its RI General Assembly Representative(s) and Senator(s) and to the Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives and President of the Rhode Island Senate.

Adopted by the (group here) on (date)

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Town official signature