



A. Ralph Mollis

Secretary of State

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

March 25, 2008

The Honorable Michael J. McCaffrey
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee
Room 312, State House
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman McCaffrey:

I am writing to you in support of Senate bill S-2551, which is presently before your committee. Passage of this bill will allow Rhode Island citizens who are eligible to vote in the general election to vote in the associated primary despite not having attained the age of eighteen at the time of that primary.

Allowing 17-year-olds this right may be considered a matter of fairness and will ensure that Rhode Island becomes part of a national trend that has seen eighteen states or state political parties explicitly permit anyone who is eligible to vote in the general election to vote in the associated primary.

I lend my full support to the passage of this act and thank you and the members of the committee for your consideration.

Sincerely,


A. Ralph Mollis,
Secretary of State

cb/ARM

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