

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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Resolution of the Town of Burrillville Opposing House Bill 2023 – H 5461 Relating to Elections – Registration of Voters

- WHEREAS, Legislation has been introduced in the Rhode Island General Assembly to authorize cities and towns, by ordinance, to allow all their residents to vote in municipal elections for municipal officeholders regardless of the immigration status of their residents; and
- WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1 of the Rhode Island Constitution states in part “Every citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years or over ... shall have the right to vote ...”; and
- WHEREAS, the legal definition of an United States Citizen, as defined by the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution is: “All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside”; and as otherwise interpreted by the United States Supreme Court; and
- WHEREAS, the history and foundation of our country and its cities and towns has been built on the blood, sweat and tears of Americans and their forbearers who followed the law, rules and sacrificed to become American citizens, to secure the right to vote and self-determination; and
- WHEREAS, there must be order and structure to our political system, especially how we elect and hold our leaders accountable and decide important issues for each of our cities and towns, the State of Rhode Island and United States of America; and
- WHEREAS, allowing illegal immigrants and/or non-citizens to vote is untenable; American citizens must protect their cherished right to vote and not cede the value and importance of each of our votes to non-citizens. This is a fundamental right of American citizens and no one should have their vote(s) marginalized or negated by the votes of illegal immigrants and/or non-citizens.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that allowing votes of illegal immigrants and/or non-citizens in local communities deprives legal citizens of the validity of their vote, undermines the history of our country and disregards those who sacrificed their lives and the wellbeing of their families to protect the sanctity of each American's vote.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we, the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville, do hereby oppose House Bill 2023 – H 5461 and any other similar legislation, and direct that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to every Rhode Island municipality and Burrillville's legislators requesting their support in opposition to this legislation.

PASSED AS A RESOLUTION of the Burrillville Town Council this 8th day of March, 2023.

Donald A. Fox, President
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:

Vicki Martin, Town Clerk