

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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**Burrillville Town Council  
Resolution No. 26-01  
in support of**

**House Bill 2026 – H 7049 and Senate Bill 2026 – S 2147  
Adjusting Primary Election Day to Wednesday after Labor Day**

- WHEREAS, the Rhode Island General Assembly is considering legislation (House Bill 2026 – H 7049 and Senate Bill 2026 – S 2147) to amend §17-15-1 of the Rhode Island General Laws relating to the scheduling of primary elections; and
- WHEREAS, under current law, primary elections are held on the eighth Tuesday preceding biennial state elections, which occasionally falls on the day immediately following Labor Day; and
- WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would require that when the eighth Tuesday falls on the day after Labor Day, the primary election shall instead be held on the following Wednesday, while maintaining all statutory deadlines as if the primary were held on Tuesday; and
- WHEREAS, holding a primary election the day after Labor Day presents logistical challenges for election officials due to the loss of a full day for setup because municipal offices are closed on Labor Day, troubleshooting, finalization of voter rolls, confirmation of poll worker assignments and the addressing of any last-minute issues; and
- WHEREAS, State offices reopening Tuesday after Labor Day may not be fully operational for election support; and
- WHEREAS, many Rhode Islanders travel on Labor Day weekend, holding a primary election the day after Labor Day will likely result in reduced voter engagement; and
- WHEREAS, this adjustment would provide election officials with adequate preparation time and improve accessibility for voters without altering other statutory deadlines or processes;
- WHEREAS, there is no federal mandate requiring a state Primary to be held on Tuesday, the state has discretion to choose a date that best serves its electorate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Burrillville hereby expresses its support for House Bill 2026 – H 7049 and Senate Bill 2026 – S 2147, and urges the Rhode Island General Assembly to enact this legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the members of the Rhode Island General Assembly and the Governor.

Adopted this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2026.

Donald A. Fox, President  
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:   
Vicki Martin, Town Clerk

