

**Executive Director**  
Jeremy Burton

March 8, 2021

**President**  
Stacey Bloom

The Honorable Senator Michael Rodrigues  
Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means

**First  
Vice President**  
Scott Gilefsky

Dear Chair Rodrigues,

**Secretary**  
Samantha Joseph

Please accept this letter as testimony **in support of H.73 An Act Further providing For Early Voting by Mail** sponsored by Representative Hill and Senator Lewis.

**Treasurer**  
Frank Litwin

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to threaten not only public health but also our democracy by keeping voters at home, suppressing registration efforts, and imperiling the health of poll workers. While there is light at the end of the tunnel, we are still amid the public health crisis as we approach town elections, some that are scheduled for as early as April. The pandemic voting package from last session was a well needed reform during the pandemic which resulted in record turnout and safe elections. Now is not the time to turn back.

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Craig Slater  
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Andrew Zelermyer

This bill is important in the immediate moment of need, but we also believe that subsequent legislation to make these expansions permanent, and enact additional important reforms, should be considered by the full legislature in time for this fall's municipal elections. It is our hope that, after promptly enacting H.73, the Legislature will quickly pass the VOTES Act (HD.1536, SD.1002) filed by Senator Creem and Representative Lawn so that when these expansions expire at the end of June, a suite of successful policies will be made permanent and our democracy can be made more secure, accessible, and equitable for all. We look forward to working with you on such subsequent legislation.

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Justin L. Wyner

Therefore, the JCRC and our member organizations respectfully request that the Committee report H.73 out favorably as quickly as possible. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions at [aagulnek@jrcrboston.org](mailto:aagulnek@jrcrboston.org).  
Respectfully,

Aaron Agulnek  
Director, Government Affairs

\*voting member

cc: Senate Committee on Ways and Means

JCRC engages the Jewish community in public life and builds solidarity across the broader community to meet the critical challenges of our times.



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