



## **Bring ID when you vote.**

Under the state's new Voter ID law, you will be asked for ID when you vote at the polls.

**Get all the details on page 21.**



# **RHODE ISLAND VOTER INFORMATION HANDBOOK 2012**

**November 6, 2012**

**A Guide to State Referenda and Voting Procedures**



# Bring ID when you vote

The state's new Voter ID law requires poll workers to ask you for ID when you vote. Voter ID strengthens the public's faith in the integrity of our elections by enabling poll workers to match a voter's name to their face.

IDs must be valid and cannot have expired, but they do not need your address.

## **Acceptable photo IDs include:**

- 1) RI driver's license or state ID
- 2) Employee ID card
- 3) College ID
- 4) RI or federal government-issued ID card
- 5) U.S. passport
- 6) RIPTA bus pass

## **Acceptable non-photo IDs for 2012 and 2013 include:**

- 1) Social Security card
- 2) Medicare or other government-issued medical card
- 3) Birth certificate

## **Don't have an acceptable photo ID?**

We will provide free IDs to voters who do not already have an acceptable photo ID.

## **Protecting your vote**

No eligible voter will be turned away at the polls. Voters who do not bring ID to the polls can vote using a standard provisional ballot, which will be counted if the signature they give at the polling place matches the signature on their voter registration card.

Beginning in 2014, only photo IDs will be accepted at the polls

**Get the complete list of acceptable IDs and learn  
how to obtain a free Voter ID at 222-2340 or [sos.ri.gov](http://sos.ri.gov).**

# A Message From Secretary of State A. Ralph Mollis



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations**  
*Office of the Secretary of State*

**A. Ralph Mollis**  
*Secretary of State*

September 2012

Dear Fellow Rhode Islander:

As Secretary of State, I am committed to making it easier to vote. This “Voter Information Handbook” includes advice about using voting equipment and finding your polling place as well as contact information for the state Board of Elections and the board of canvassers of every city and town. **There is also information about the state’s new Voter ID requirements.**

In addition, this handbook includes background on the ballot questions and bond issues that will be on November’s ballot along with races for President of the United States and the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives as well as state senator, state representative and many municipal offices.

In keeping with my pledge to use technology to improve Rhode Islanders’ access to their government, the handbook and many other publications such as the “Directory of Government Officials” and the “How to Register and Vote Guide” are posted on our website at [sos.ri.gov](http://sos.ri.gov), where they are available 24/7.

Government belongs to the people. The more they know, the better they will be served. If you need additional information, please contact our Elections Division at 401-222-2340, TTY 711 or [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Ralph Mollis". The signature is written in a cursive style.

A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Office of the Secretary of State prepared this handbook with the help of the Budget Office of the state Department of Administration, individual state agencies and bond counsel. We greatly appreciate their time and effort.

## WARNING

Voter fraud is a felony and may be punishable by a fine and/or a jail sentence. You must be registered to vote from your actual place of residence.

# DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

## BONDS

A bond is an obligation or agreement made binding by a pledge of financial backing. A bond is written evidence of the State's obligation to repay the principal borrowed with interest at specified rates and maturity dates.

## CASINO GAMING

Casino gaming is any and all table and casino-style games played with cards, dice or equipment, for money, credit, or any representative of value; including, but not limited to roulette, blackjack, big six, craps, poker, baccarat, pai gow, any banking or percentage game, or any other game or device included within the definition of Class III gaming as that term is defined in Section 2703(8) of Title 25 of the United States Code and which is approved by the State of Rhode Island through the Lottery Division.

## CONSTITUTION

The Rhode Island Constitution is the fundamental law of the State of Rhode Island. It frames and provides the basic principles which are to regulate the relations of the citizens of the State of Rhode Island, the State of Rhode Island and the branches of the government of the State of Rhode Island.

## GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND

A general obligation bond is a bond which is secured by the full faith and credit and taxing power of the State.

## ISSUING BONDS

To "issue" bonds means to sell, deliver, and receive payment for bonds. The State generally issues bonds for particular projects upon determining the amount of cash necessary to implement such projects.

## LICENSED VIDEO LOTTERY RETAILER

Licensed video lottery retailer means a pari-mutual licensee specifically licensed by the Director of the Lottery Division subject to the approval of the Lottery Division to become a licensed video lottery retailer in the State of Rhode Island.

## NET TABLE GAME REVENUE

Net table game revenue means winnings from table games minus counterfeit currency.

## NET TERMINAL INCOME

Net terminal income means currency placed into a video lottery terminal less credits redeemed for cash by players.

## NEWPORT GRAND, LLC

Newport Grand, LLC means Newport Grand, LLC, a Rhode Island limited liability company and the successor to Newport Grand Jai Alai, LLC under the Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract dated as of November 23, 2005 ("Newport Grand Master Contract"), as may be amended from time to time, by and between the Lottery Division and Newport Grand Jai Alai, LLC. The term Newport Grand, LLC shall include its permitted successors and assigns under the Newport Grand Master Contract, if licensed by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation.

## **REFERENDUM**

A referendum is a means by which a legislative body requests the electorate to approve or reject proposals such as constitutional amendments, long-term borrowing, and special laws affecting some cities and towns. The Rhode Island Constitution prohibits the State's legislature from making an amendment to the Constitution or from entering into a debt for over a one-year period or from expanding the types of gambling permitted within any city or town in the State without the consent of the electorate. When the General Assembly wishes to incur debt beyond a one-year period, it authorizes an election at which voters can approve or reject incurring long-term debt.

Such a legislative request is always phrased as a question. Therefore, a referendum is called a question. Referenda is the plural form of the word.

## **REFUNDING BONDS**

Bond referenda provide authority for the State to issue refunding bonds. This means that the State can refinance existing bonds at lower interest rates by calling in and paying off the existing bonds and refinancing them at lower interest rates.

The principal behind refunding bonds is similar to refinancing a mortgage when interest rates decline: it saves taxpayers' dollars.

## **TABLE GAME OR TABLE GAMING**

Table game or table gaming means that type of casino gaming in which games are played for cash or chips representing cash, using cards, dice or equipment and conducted by one or more live persons.

## **TEMPORARY NOTES**

Each borrowing question also authorizes the state to provide short-term financing, in the form of temporary notes, prior to the issuance of bonds in order to assure that money is available for projects needing immediate funding.

## **UTGR, INC.**

UTGR, Inc., means UTGR, Inc., a Delaware corporation and including such entity, as reorganized under its bankruptcy plan of reorganization, and any corporation, trust, partnership, joint venture or any other form of business entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with UTGR, Inc. The term UTGR, Inc. shall include its permitted successors and assigns under the Master Video Lottery Terminal Contract dated as of July 18, 2005, as may be amended from time to time, by and among the Lottery Division, the Department of Transportation and UTGR, Inc., if licensed by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation.

## **VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINAL**

Video lottery terminal means any electronic computerized video game machine that, upon the insertion of cash, is available to play a video game authorized by the Lottery Division, and which uses a video display and microprocessors in which by chance, the player may receive free games or credit that can be redeemed for cash. The term does not include a machine that directly dispenses coins, cash or tokens.

# QUESTION 1:

## **1. STATE CONSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL (APPROVAL OF AN ACT AUTHORIZING STATE-OPERATED CASINO GAMING AT TWIN RIVER IN THE TOWN OF LINCOLN)**

### **(Section 22 of Article VI of the Constitution)**

Shall an act be approved which would authorize the facility known as “Twin River” in the town of Lincoln to add state-operated casino gaming, such as table games, to the types of gambling it offers?

**APPROVE**      ←      

**REJECT**      ←      

# EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 1:

## **STATE CONSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL (APPROVAL OF AN ACT AUTHORIZING STATE-OPERATED CASINO GAMING AT TWIN RIVER IN THE TOWN OF LINCOLN)**

### **PURPOSE AND EXPLANATION: WHAT WOULD APPROVAL OF THIS QUESTION DO?**

Revenues generated by the State of Rhode Island from state-operated gaming in Rhode Island constitute the third largest source of revenue to the State, behind only revenue generated from income taxes and sales and use taxes. In a study commissioned by the Rhode Island Department of Revenue, Christiansen Capital Advisors, LLC anticipated that competition from gaming facilities recently authorized in Massachusetts could have a 25 to 40 per cent negative impact on State revenues generated from state-operated gaming in Rhode Island, amounting to losses to the State of \$100 million or more in annual revenues.

In order to reduce the potential adverse effects on State revenues from competition anticipated to come from casino gaming facilities authorized in Massachusetts, the General Assembly, pursuant to Article 25 of Chapter 151 of the Public Laws of 2011, amended Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws entitled “Video Lottery Terminal” to authorize the licensed video lottery terminal retailer known as “Twin River” to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility located in the Town of Lincoln; provided that the requirements of Section 22 of Article VI of the Rhode Island Constitution are satisfied. Section 22 of Article VI of the Rhode Island Constitution provides that no act expanding the types of gambling permitted within any city or town in the State of Rhode Island shall take effect until it has been approved by a majority of those electors voting in a statewide referendum and by the majority of those electors voting in a referendum in the municipality in which the proposed gambling would be allowed.

Approval of the act authorizing Twin River to engage in state-operated casino gaming will result in Twin River being authorized to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the Town of Lincoln in accordance with the legislation adopted by the General Assembly. However, even if a majority of the electors of the State of Rhode Island vote to approve such authorization for Twin River to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the Town of Lincoln, such authorization will not take effect unless a majority of the electors of the Town of Lincoln approve it as well.

The legislation adopted by the General Assembly provides that the State of Rhode Island is authorized to operate, conduct and control casino gaming at Twin River to the extent Twin River is authorized to engage in casino gaming. It goes on to provide that the State of Rhode Island, through the Lottery Division and/or the Department of Business Regulation, shall have full operational control to operate the Twin River facility and the authority to make all

decisions about all aspects of the functioning of the business enterprise, including, without limitation, the power and authority to:

- (1) Determine the number, type, placement and arrangement of casino gaming games, tables and sites within the facility;
- (2) Establish with respect to casino gaming one or more systems for linking, tracking, deposit and reporting of receipts, audits, annual reports, prohibitive conduct and other such matters determined from time to time;
- (3) Collect all receipts from casino gaming, require that Twin River collect casino gaming gross receipts in trust for the State of Rhode Island through the Lottery Division, deposit such receipts into an account or accounts of its choice, allocate such receipts according to law, and otherwise maintain custody and control over all casino gaming receipts and funds;
- (4) Hold and exercise sufficient powers over Twin River's accounting and finances to allow for adequate oversight and verification of the financial aspects of casino gaming at the facility;
- (5) Monitor all casino gaming operations and have the power to terminate or suspend any casino gaming activities in the event of an integrity concern or other threat to the public trust;
- (6) Define and limit the rules of play and odds of authorized casino gaming games, including, without limitation, the minimum and maximum wagers for each casino gaming game;
- (7) Have approval rights over matters relating to the employment of individuals to be involved, directly or indirectly, with the operation of casino gaming at Twin River;
- (8) Establish compulsive gambling treatment programs;
- (9) Promulgate, or propose for promulgation, any legislative, interpretive and procedural rules necessary for the successful implementation, administration and enforcement of Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws; and
- (10) Hold all other powers necessary and proper to fully and effectively execute and administer the provisions of Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws for its purpose of allowing the State of Rhode Island to operate a casino gaming facility through a licensed video lottery retailer hosting said casino gaming on behalf of the State of Rhode Island.

In order to further protect State gaming revenues and maintain the competitiveness of Twin River and the State's other gaming facility, Newport Grand, the General Assembly has also adopted legislation called the Revenue Protection Act, which is cited as Chapters 289 and 290 of the Public Laws of 2012, to address, among other things, the share of net table game revenues to be received by the State if casino gaming is approved, establish the share of video lottery terminal revenue to be received by the Town of Lincoln going forward, incentive gaming programs to protect market share and mitigate the potential impact of casino gaming in Massachusetts, and a regulatory framework to ensure oversight of casino gaming by the Lottery Division.

The Revenue Protection Act establishes the State of Rhode Island's share of net table game revenues from Twin River to be 18 per cent of such revenues. However, the State's share of net table game revenues from table games at Twin River will decrease by 2 per cent to 16 per cent the first full State fiscal year the net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Twin River is less than such net terminal income from video lottery terminals in the prior State fiscal year. The operator of Twin River, UTGR, Inc., shall receive all net table game revenues not otherwise disbursed to the State.

The State currently receives, and will continue to receive, approximately 61.3 per cent of net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Twin River. The share of net terminal income from video lottery terminals received by UTGR, Inc. as the licensed video lottery retailer at Twin River shall remain at 27.76 per cent. The State's percentage share of revenues from table games at Twin River is significantly less than the State's percentage share of revenues from video lottery terminals because the operational expenses relating to table games to be paid by UTGR, Inc. are substantially higher than the operational expenses relating to video lottery terminals.

The House and Senate Fiscal Staff of the General Assembly, as set forth in presentation materials generated for the House and Senate Finance Committees in connection with their consideration of the Revenue Protection Act, estimated that Twin River would generate \$60 million in net table game revenues from table gaming in the first full



year of operation, which would result in the State's share of net table game revenues being approximately \$10.8 million. There is, however, no assurance that such level of revenues, or any other particular level of revenues, will be achieved or what impact casino gaming in other states will have on revenues generated at Twin River from casino gaming and video lottery terminals in the future.

The Revenue Protection Act provides that effective as of July 1, 2013, provided that the referendum question is approved by the electors statewide and in the Town of Lincoln, the Town of Lincoln's share of net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Twin River shall remain at 1.45 per cent each year without the need of being reset every year as is currently the case. Should revenues from video lottery terminals decline, the Town of Lincoln will receive 1 per cent of net table game revenues from the share of the operator of Twin River for a four year period to help the Town of Lincoln, as the host community, transition during the period of decline in net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Twin River.

The Revenue Protection Act also provides the Lottery Division with all necessary authority to oversee and regulate all aspects of the table gaming operations, should casino gaming be authorized at Twin River, by, among other things, addressing personnel and hiring procedures and financial management and reporting, requiring the Lottery Division to establish regulations on or before March 31, 2013, authorizing the offering of table games at Twin River for all or a portion of the days and times that video lottery terminals are offered, and addressing the need for problem gambling services at Twin River by requiring Twin River to work with the Lottery Division to provide funding and offer problem gambling programs, including a player-self exclusion program and a problem gambling hotline.

To review the provisions of the Revenue Protection Act in their entirety and their effect as it relates to table games and video lottery terminals at Twin River should the referendum question be approved by electors statewide and in the Town of Lincoln, we refer you to the legislation enacted under Chapters 289 and 290 of the Public Laws of 2012. There is, however, no assurance that the provisions of the Revenue Protection Act will not be amended in the future by the General Assembly, including without limitation, the share of revenues to be received by the State from table games and video lottery terminals.

A vote to "Approve" this question means you wish to approve the act authorizing Twin River to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the Town of Lincoln in accordance with the provisions of such act.

A vote to "Reject" this question means you do not approve the act authorizing Twin River to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the Town of Lincoln in accordance with the provisions of such act.

Concurrently with this referendum question, there is a similar referendum question regarding casino gaming being presented to the electors statewide and in the City of Newport relating to the licensed video lottery terminal retailer known as "Newport Grand" and its facility located in the City of Newport. Voter approval or non-approval with respect to such referendum question shall be independent of voter approval or non-approval of this referendum question with respect to Twin River and its facility in the Town of Lincoln, and vice versa.

## **HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?**

The referendum would not authorize any borrowing.

## QUESTION 2:

### **2. STATE CONSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL (APPROVAL OF AN ACT AUTHORIZING STATE-OPERATED CASINO GAMING AT NEWPORT GRAND IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT)**

#### **(Section 22 of Article VI of the Constitution)**

Shall an act be approved which would authorize the facility known as “Newport Grand” in the city of Newport to add state-operated casino gaming, such as table games, to the types of gambling it offers?

**APPROVE**   ←  

**REJECT**   ←  

## EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 2:

### **STATE CONSTITUTIONAL APPROVAL (APPROVAL OF AN ACT AUTHORIZING STATE-OPERATED CASINO GAMING AT NEWPORT GRAND IN THE CITY OF NEWPORT)**

#### **PURPOSE AND EXPLANATION: WHAT WOULD APPROVAL OF THIS QUESTION DO?**

Revenues generated by the State of Rhode Island from state-operated gaming in Rhode Island constitute the third largest source of revenue to the State, behind only revenue generated from income taxes and sales and use taxes. In a study commissioned by the Rhode Island Department of Revenue, Christiansen Capital Advisors, LLC anticipated that competition from gaming facilities recently authorized in Massachusetts could have a 25 to 40 per cent negative impact on State revenues generated from state-operated gaming in Rhode Island, amounting to losses to the State of \$100 million or more in annual revenues.

In order to reduce the potential adverse effects on State revenues from competition anticipated to come from casino gaming facilities authorized in Massachusetts, the General Assembly, pursuant to Chapters 24 and 25 of the Public Laws of 2012, amended Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws entitled “Video Lottery Terminal” to authorize the licensed video lottery terminal retailer known as “Newport Grand” to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility located in the City of Newport; provided that the requirements of Section 22 of Article VI of the Rhode Island Constitution are satisfied. Section 22 of Article VI of the Rhode Island Constitution provides that no act expanding the types of gambling permitted within any city or town in the State of Rhode Island shall take effect until it has been approved by a majority of those electors voting in a statewide referendum and by the majority of those electors voting in a referendum in the municipality in which the proposed gambling would be allowed.

Approval of the act authorizing Newport Grand to engage in state-operated casino gaming will result in Newport Grand being authorized to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the City of Newport in accordance with the legislation adopted by the General Assembly. However, even if a majority of the electors of the State of Rhode Island vote to approve such authorization for Newport Grand to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the City of Newport, such authorization will not take effect unless a majority of the electors of the City of Newport approve it as well.

The legislation adopted by the General Assembly provides that the State of Rhode Island is authorized to operate, conduct and control casino gaming at Newport Grand to the extent Newport Grand is authorized to engage in casino gaming. It goes on to provide that the State of Rhode Island, through the Lottery Division and/or the Department of

Business Regulation, shall have full operational control to operate the Newport Grand facility and the authority to make all decisions about all aspects of the functioning of the business enterprise, including, without limitation, the power and authority to:

- (1) Determine the number, type, placement and arrangement of casino gaming games, tables and sites within the facility;
- (2) Establish with respect to casino gaming one or more systems for linking, tracking, deposit and reporting of receipts, audits, annual reports, prohibitive conduct and other such matters determined from time to time;
- (3) Collect all receipts from casino gaming, require that Newport Grand collect casino gaming gross receipts in trust for the State of Rhode Island through the Lottery Division, deposit such receipts into an account or accounts of its choice, allocate such receipts according to law, and otherwise maintain custody and control over all casino gaming receipts and funds;
- (4) Hold and exercise sufficient powers over Newport Grand's accounting and finances to allow for adequate oversight and verification of the financial aspects of casino gaming at the facility;
- (5) Monitor all casino gaming operations and have the power to terminate or suspend any casino gaming activities in the event of an integrity concern or other threat to the public trust;
- (6) Define and limit the rules of play and odds of authorized casino gaming games, including, without limitation, the minimum and maximum wagers for each casino gaming game;
- (7) Have approval rights over matters relating to the employment of individuals to be involved, directly or indirectly, with the operation of casino gaming at Newport Grand;
- (8) Establish compulsive gambling treatment programs;
- (9) Promulgate, or propose for promulgation, any legislative, interpretive and procedural rules necessary for the successful implementation, administration and enforcement of Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws; and
- (10) Hold all other powers necessary and proper to fully effectively execute and administer the provisions of Chapter 61.2 of Title 42 of the Rhode Island General Laws for its purpose of allowing the State of Rhode Island to operate a casino gaming facility through a licensed video lottery retailer hosting said casino gaming on behalf of the State of Rhode Island.

In order to further protect State gaming revenues and maintain the competitiveness of Newport Grand and the State's other gaming facility, Twin River, the General Assembly has also adopted legislation called the Revenue Protection Act, which is cited as Chapters 289 and 290 of the Public Laws of 2012, to address, among other things, the share of net table game revenues to be received by the State if casino gaming is approved, establish the share of video lottery terminal revenue to be received by the City of Newport going forward, incentive gaming programs to protect market share and mitigate the potential impact of casino gaming in Massachusetts, and a regulatory framework to ensure oversight of casino gaming by the Lottery Division.

The Revenue Protection Act establishes the State of Rhode Island's share of net table game revenues from Newport Grand to be 18 per cent of such revenues. The operator of Newport Grand, Newport Grand, LLC, shall receive all net table game revenues not otherwise disbursed to the State.

The State currently receives approximately 61.9 per cent of net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Newport Grand. Effective July 1, 2013, assuming the referendum question is approved statewide and in the City of Newport, and assuming Newport Grand commences and continues to offer table games, the share of net terminal income of the licensed video lottery retailer at Newport Grand from video lottery terminals shall increase by 1.5 per cent to 29.26 per cent and the State's share of net terminal income will decline accordingly to 60.41 per cent. The State's percentage share of revenues from table games at Newport Grand is significantly less than the State's percentage share of revenues from video lottery terminals because the operational expenses relating to table games to be paid by Newport Grand, LLC are substantially higher than the operational expenses relating to video lottery terminals.

The House and Senate Fiscal Staff of the General Assembly, as set forth in presentation materials generated for the House and Senate Finance Committees in connection with their consideration of the Revenue Protection Act, estimated that Newport Grand would generate \$5 million in net table game revenues from table gaming in the first full year of operation, which would result in the State's share of net table game revenues being approximately \$0.9 million. There is, however, no assurance that such level of revenues, or any other particular level of revenues, will be achieved or what impact casino gaming in other states will have on revenues generated at Newport Grand from casino gaming and video lottery terminals in the future.

The Revenue Protection Act provides that effective as of July 1, 2013, provided that the referendum question is approved by the electors statewide and in the City of Newport, the City of Newport's share of net terminal revenues from video lottery terminals at Newport Grand shall increase from 1.01 per cent to 1.45 per cent each year. Should revenues from video lottery terminals decline, the City of Newport will receive 1 per cent of net table game revenues from the share of Newport Grand for a four year period to help the City of Newport, as the host community, transition during the period of decline in net terminal income from video lottery terminals at Newport Grand.

The Revenue Protection Act also provides the Lottery Division with all necessary authority to oversee and regulate all aspects of the table gaming operations, should casino gaming be authorized at Newport Grand, by, among other things, addressing personnel and hiring procedures and financial management and reporting, requiring the Lottery Division to establish regulations on or before March 31, 2013, authorizing the offering of table games at Newport Grand for all or a portion of the days and times that video lottery terminals are offered, and addressing the need for problem gambling services at Newport Grand by requiring Newport Grand to work with the Lottery Division to provide funding and offer problem gambling programs, including a player-self exclusion program and a problem gambling hotline.

To review the provisions of the Revenue Protection Act in their entirety and their effect as it relates to table games and video lottery terminals at Newport Grand should the referendum question be approved by electors statewide and in the City of Newport, we refer you to the legislation enacted under Chapters 289 and 290 of the Public Laws of 2012. There is, however, no assurance that the provisions of the Revenue Protection Act will not be amended in the future by the General Assembly, including without limitation, the share of revenues to be received by the State from table games and video lottery terminals.

A vote to "Approve" this question means you wish to approve the act authorizing Newport Grand to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the City of Newport in accordance with the provisions of such act.

A vote to "Reject" this question means you do not approve the act authorizing Newport Grand to engage in state-operated casino gaming at its facility in the City of Newport in accordance with the provisions of such act.

Concurrently with this referendum question, there is a similar referendum question regarding casino gaming being presented to the electors statewide and in the Town of Lincoln relating to the licensed video lottery terminal retailer known as "Twin River" and its facility located in the Town of Lincoln. Voter approval or non-approval with respect to such referendum question shall be independent of voter approval or non-approval of this referendum question with respect to Newport Grand and its facility in the City of Newport, and vice versa.

### **HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?**

The referendum would not authorize any borrowing.

# QUESTION 3:

## 3. HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES BONDS

\$50,000,000

(Chapter 241 - Public Laws 2012)

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed fifty million dollars (\$50,000,000) for renovations and modernization of academic buildings at Rhode Island College including renovation, upgrade and expansion of health and nursing facilities on the campus of Rhode Island College.

APPROVE ←

REJECT ←

# EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 3:

## HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES

### PURPOSE: WHAT WILL THE HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES BONDS DO?

Approval and issuance of these bonds will provide funds to the Board of Governors for Higher Education to renovate and modernize academic buildings at Rhode Island College including the renovation, upgrade and expansion of health and nursing facilities on the campus of Rhode Island College.

### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?

\$50,000,000

### EXPLANATION: HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

\$50,000,000 will be used to renovate and modernize academic buildings at Rhode Island College including the renovation, upgrade and expansion of health and nursing facilities on the campus of Rhode Island College.

### PROJECT TIME TABLE:

The program to renovate and modernize academic buildings at Rhode Island College is expected to commence in March 2013 and expected to be completed by January 2017.

### USEFUL LIFE:

The Board of Governors for Higher Education estimates the useful life of the renovation and modernization of academic buildings at Rhode Island College to be approximately 50 years.

### TOTAL COST:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$49,800,000	\$23,487,423	\$200,000	\$94,327	\$50,000,000	\$23,581,750	\$73,581,750

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

## QUESTION 4:

### 4. VETERANS' HOME BONDS

\$94,000,000

(Chapter 241 - Public Laws 2012)

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed ninety-four million dollars (\$94,000,000) for the construction of a new Veterans' Home and renovations to existing facilities. Any funding amount from federal sources received for these purposes will be used to reduce the amount of borrowed funds.

APPROVE ←

REJECT ←

## EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 4:

### VETERANS' HOME

#### PURPOSE: WHAT WILL THE VETERANS' HOME BONDS DO?

Approval and issuance of these bonds will provide funds to the Department of Human Services for the construction of a new Veterans' Home and renovations to existing facilities.

#### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?

\$94,000,000 but any funding amount from federal sources received for these purposes will be used to reduce the amount of borrowed funds.

#### EXPLANATION: HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

\$94,000,000 (or such amount less any funding from federal sources received for these purposes) will be used for the construction of a new Veterans' Home and renovations to existing facilities.

#### PROJECT TIME TABLE:

The program for the construction of a new Veterans' Home and renovations to existing facilities is expected to commence in 2013 and be completed by 2023, beginning with construction of the new Veterans' Home and followed by renovations to existing facilities

#### USEFUL LIFE:

The Department of Human Services estimates that the useful life of the new Veterans' Home and the renovations to existing facilities will be approximately 75 years.

#### TOTAL COST:

PROJECT COSTS***		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$93,624,000	\$44,156,356	\$376,000	\$177,335	\$94,000,000	\$44,333,691	\$138,333,691

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

\*\*\* Assumes no funding from federal sources is received to reduce the amount of borrowed funds.

## QUESTION 5:

### 5. CLEAN WATER FINANCE AGENCY BONDS

\$20,000,000

(Chapter 241- Public Laws 2012)

Approval of this question will authorize the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) to be leveraged with federal and state capitalization grants to finance wastewater infrastructure projects and eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) to be leveraged with federal and state capitalization grants to finance drinking water infrastructure projects.

APPROVE ←

REJECT ←

## EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 5:

### CLEAN WATER FINANCE AGENCY

#### PURPOSE: WHAT WILL THE CLEAN WATER FINANCE AGENCY BONDS DO?

Approval and issuance of these bonds will provide State matching funds to the Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency to be leveraged with federal capitalization grants to provide low-interest, subsidized loans for local governmental units to finance approved water pollution abatement projects and to provide low-interest, subsidized loans for local governmental units and privately organized water suppliers to finance approved drinking water projects. The proceeds will be used to secure up to \$100,000,000 in federal funds to finance approved water pollution abatement and drinking water projects.

#### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?

\$20,000,000

#### EXPLANATION: HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

- (a) \$12,000,000 will be leveraged with federal capitalization grants to finance approved water pollution abatement projects.  
(b) \$8,000,000 will be leveraged with federal capitalization grants to finance approved drinking water projects.

#### PROJECT TIME TABLE:

The program to use such funds to finance approved water pollution abatement projects is expected to commence in 2013 and be completed by 2017. The program to use such funds to finance approved drinking water projects is expected to commence in 2013 and be completed by 2017.

#### USEFUL LIFE:

The Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency and the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management estimate that the useful life of the water pollution abatement projects to be financed to be at least 20 years. The Rhode Island Clean Water Finance Agency and the Rhode Island Department of Health estimate that the useful life of the drinking water projects to be financed to be at least 20 years.

#### TOTAL COST:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$19,920,000	\$9,394,969	\$80,000	\$37,731	\$20,000,000	\$9,432,700	\$29,432,700

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

## QUESTION 6:

### 6. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BONDS

\$20,000,000

#### (Chapter 241 - Public Laws 2012)

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes for environmental and recreational purposes to be allotted as follows:

**(a) Narragansett Bay and Watershed Restoration .....\$4,000,000**

Provides funds for activities to restore and protect the water quality and enhance the economic viability and environmental sustainability of Narragansett Bay and the State's watersheds. Eligible activities include: nonpoint source pollution abatement, including stormwater management; nutrient loading abatement; commercial, industrial and agricultural pollution abatement; and riparian buffer and watershed ecosystem restoration.

**(b) State Land Acquisition - Open Space .....\$2,500,000**

Provides funds for the purchase of land, development rights and conservation easements in Rhode Island. This program acquires recreational and open space lands for the State of Rhode Island in accordance with the Rhode Island Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Land Protection Plan, and the Rhode Island Greenspace 2000 plan.

**(c) Farmland Development Rights .....\$4,500,000**

Provides funds for the purchase of agricultural development rights to active farms in Rhode Island. The State purchases the development rights to farms to eliminate the economic pressure on farmers to sell properties for residential and commercial development. The Agricultural Land Preservation Commission accepts and evaluates farmland applications for these funds.

**(d) Local Land Acquisition Grants .....\$2,500,000**

Provides funds for grants to municipalities, local land trusts and non-profit organizations to acquire fee-simple title, development rights, or conservation easements to open space in Rhode Island. The grants provide funding up to fifty percent (50%) of the purchase price for land, surveys, appraisals and title costs. The grant applications are reviewed and evaluated by the Governor's Natural Heritage Preservation Commission according to the program guidelines.

**(e) Local Recreation Grants .....\$5,500,000**

Provides grants to municipalities for acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of local recreational facilities. These grants provide funding assistance up to fifty percent (50%) of the project costs. All grant applications are evaluated and ranked by the State Recreation Resources Review Committee.

**(f) Historic/Passive Parks .....\$1,000,000**

Provides grants to municipalities for the renovation and development of historic and passive recreation areas. The grants provide funding assistance up to ninety percent (90%) of the project costs. All grant applications are evaluated and ranked by the State Recreation Resources Review Committee.

**APPROVE** ←

**REJECT** ←



# EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 6:

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

### PURPOSE: WHAT WILL THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BONDS DO?

Approval and issuance of these bonds will provide funds to the Department of Environmental Management for the following environmental and recreational purposes:

- (a) **Narragansett Bay and Watershed Restoration** – activities to restore and protect the water quality and enhance the economic viability and environmental sustainability of Narragansett Bay and the State of Rhode Island’s watersheds, with eligible activities to include nonpoint source pollution abatement, including stormwater management, nutrient loading abatement, commercial, industrial and agricultural pollution abatement, and riparian buffer and watershed ecosystem restoration;
- (b) **State Land Acquisition - Open Space** – the purchase of land, development rights and conservation easements in Rhode Island for the purpose of acquiring recreational and open space lands for the State of Rhode Island in accordance with the Rhode Island Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Land Protection Plan, and Rhode Island Greenspace 2000 Plan;
- (c) **Farmland Development Rights** – the purchase of agricultural development rights to active farms in Rhode Island in order to eliminate the economic pressure on farmers to sell properties for residential and commercial development;
- (d) **Local Land Acquisition Grants** – providing grants to municipalities, local land trusts and non-profit organizations to acquire fee-simple title, development rights, or conservation easements to open space in Rhode Island with such grants funding up to 50% of the purchase price for land, surveys, appraisals and title costs;
- (e) **Local Recreation Grants** – providing grants to municipalities for acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of local recreational facilities with such grants funding up to 50% of the project costs; and
- (f) **Historic/Passive Parks** – providing grants to municipalities for the renovation and development of historic and passive recreation areas with such grants funding assistance up to 90% of the project costs.

### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?

\$20,000,000

### EXPLANATION: HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

- (a) **Narragansett Bay and Watershed Restorations**: \$4,000,000 will be used to provide funds for activities to restore and protect the water quality and enhance the economic viability and environmental sustainability of Narragansett Bay and the State of Rhode Island’s watersheds. Eligible activities include: nonpoint source pollution abatement, including stormwater management; nutrient loading abatement; commercial, industrial and agricultural pollution abatement; and riparian buffer and watershed ecosystem restorations.
- (b) **State Land Acquisition – Open Space**: \$2,500,000 will be used to provide funds for the purchase of land, development rights and conservation easements in Rhode Island. The program acquires recreational and open space lands for the State of Rhode Island in accordance with the Rhode Island Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Land Protection Plan, and Rhode Island Greenspace 2000 Plan.
- (c) **Farmland Development Rights**: \$4,500,000 will be used to provide funds for the purchase of agricultural development rights to active farms in Rhode Island in order to eliminate the economic pressure on farmers to sell properties for residential and commercial development. The Agricultural Land Preservation Commission will accept and evaluate farmland applications for these funds.
- (d) **Local Land Acquisition Grants**: \$2,500,000 will be used to provide funds for grants to municipalities, local land trusts and non-profit organizations to acquire fee-simple title, development rights, or conservation easements to open space in Rhode Island with such grants funding up to 50% of the purchase price for land, surveys, appraisals and title costs. The grant applications will be reviewed and evaluated by the Governor’s Natural Heritage Preservation Commission according to the program guidelines.

- (e) **Local Recreation Grants:** \$5,500,000 will be used to provide funds for grants to municipalities for acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of local recreational facilities with such grants funding up to 50% of the project costs. All grant applications will be evaluated and ranked by the State Recreation Resources Review Committee.
- (f) **Historic/Passive Parks:** \$1,000,000 will be used to provide funds for grants to municipalities through the State Recreation Resources Review Committee for the renovation and development of historic and passive recreation areas with such grants funding up to 90% of the project costs. All grant applications will be evaluated and ranked by the State Recreation Resources Review Committee.

**PROJECT TIME TABLE:**

The program to provide funding assistance for: (a) activities to restore and protect the water quality and enhance the economic viability and environmental sustainability of Narragansett Bay and the State of Rhode Island’s watersheds are expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020; (b) the purchase of land, development rights and conservation easements in Rhode Island in accordance with the Rhode Island Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Land Protection Plan, and Rhode Island Greenspace 2000 Plan is expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020; (c) the purchase of agricultural development rights to active farms in Rhode Island is expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020; (d) grants to municipalities, local land trusts and non-profit organizations to acquire fee-simple title, development rights, or conservation easements to open space in Rhode Island are expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020; (e) grants to municipalities for acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of local recreational facilities are expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020; and (f) grants to municipalities for the renovation and development of historic and passive recreation areas are expected to commence in 2014 and expected to be completed by 2020.

**USEFUL LIFE:**

The Department of Environmental Management estimates the useful life of: (a) activities to restore and protect the water quality and enhance the economic viability and environmental sustainability of Narragansett Bay and the State of Rhode Island’s watersheds to be 25 years, (b) land, development rights and conservation easements in Rhode Island to be purchased in accordance with the Rhode Island Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Land Protection Plan, and Rhode Island Greenspace 2000 Plan to be 25 years, (c) the agricultural development rights to active farms in Rhode Island to be purchased to be 25 years, (d) the fee-simple title, development rights, or conservation easements to open space in Rhode Island to be acquired to be 25 years, (e) the local recreational facilities to be acquired, developed or rehabilitated to be 25 years, and (f) the historic and passive recreation areas to be renovated and developed to be 25 years.

**TOTAL COST:**

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$19,920,000	\$9,394,969	\$80,000	\$37,731	\$20,000,000	\$9,432,700	\$29,432,700

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

# QUESTION 7:

## 7. AFFORDABLE HOUSING BONDS

\$25,000,000

(Chapter 241 - Public Laws 2012)

Approval of this question will allow the State of Rhode Island to issue general obligation bonds, refunding bonds, and temporary notes in an amount not to exceed twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000) for affordable housing.

APPROVE ← 

REJECT ← 

# EXPLANATION FOR QUESTION 7:

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

### PURPOSE: WHAT WILL THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BONDS DO?

Approval and issuance of these bonds will provide funding to the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission for affordable housing – both houses and apartments.

### HOW MUCH MONEY WILL BE BORROWED?

\$25,000,000

### EXPLANATION: HOW WILL THE MONEY BE SPENT?

\$25,000,000 will be used to provide funds to the Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission to create affordable homes through redevelopment of existing structures and/or new construction. These funds are expected to be matched by approximately an additional \$225,000,000 in funding from other sources.

### PROJECT TIME TABLE:

The affordable housing initiative using these funds is expected to commence in July 2013 and expected to be completed by June 2015.

### USEFUL LIFE:

The Rhode Island Housing Resources Commission estimates the useful life of the affordable housing to be a minimum of 30 years.

### TOTAL COST:

PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
\$24,900,000	\$11,743,711	\$100,000	\$47,164	\$25,000,000	\$11,790,875	\$36,790,875

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

# BOND FINANCING

## ESTIMATED COST OF BORROWING

The chart below provides an estimated cost for each referendum question authorizing the State to borrow money for a variety of projects. If you want to know the cost for a particular referendum project, including the costs associated with the issuance of the bonds, you will find the amount in the columns entitled “Total Project and Issuance Costs” under “principal,” and the amount of “interest” in the next column. The far right hand column entitled “total costs,” reflects the total principal plus interest for any particular question. These costs include both the estimated project costs and the estimated cost associated with the issuance of the bonds, such as legal fees, rating agency fees, printing and underwriting costs.

For example, for bond referendum question number 3, Higher Education, the figure in the column headed “principal” under “Total Project and Issuance Costs” is the amount which appears on the ballot question - \$50,000,000. The amount of \$23,581,750 in the next column is the estimated interest on \$50,000,000 over a twenty-year period. The total cost of borrowing is calculated by adding the principal and interest for a total cost of \$73,581,750.

The interest rates for each referendum are estimated; actual interest rates will vary depending upon the bond market at the time of issuance. The estimated costs assume the bonds are amortized over a twenty-year period.

## ESTIMATED BOND REFERENDA COST

BOND REFERENDA QUESTIONS	PROJECT COSTS		COST OF ISSUANCE*		TOTAL PROJECT AND ISSUANCE COSTS		
	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Principal	Interest**	Total Costs
3. Higher Education Facilities	\$49,800,000	\$23,487,423	\$200,000	\$94,327	\$50,000,000	\$23,581,750	\$73,581,750
4. Veterans' Home ***	\$93,624,000	\$44,156,356	\$376,000	\$177,335	\$94,000,000	\$44,333,691	\$138,333,691
5. Clean Water Finance Agency	\$19,920,000	\$9,394,969	\$80,000	\$37,731	\$20,000,000	\$9,432,700	\$29,432,700
6. Environmental Management	\$19,920,000	\$9,394,969	\$80,000	\$37,731	\$20,000,000	\$9,432,700	\$29,432,700
7. Affordable Housing	\$24,900,000	\$11,743,711	\$100,000	\$47,164	\$25,000,000	\$11,790,875	\$36,790,875
<b>TOTAL BORROWING COST FOR ALL REFERENDA</b>	\$208,164,000	\$98,177,428	\$836,000	\$394,288	\$209,000,000	\$98,571,716	\$307,571,716

\* Cost of issuance estimated at 0.4% of principal issued.

\*\* Assumes an interest rate of 4.0%, with bonds amortized with level payments over twenty years.

\*\*\* Assumes no funding from federal sources is received to reduce the amount of borrowed funds.

# VOTING AT THE POLLS

## Where do I vote?

Your voting district is determined by your place of residence. Watch your local newspaper for an announcement indicating polling locations and times, or contact your local board of canvassers.

You may also obtain your polling place location on the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic) or by calling the Secretary of State's Elections Division at 401-222-2340 or TTY 711.

## How do I identify myself at the polling place?

When you enter your polling place, state your name and address to one of the bi-partisan supervisors seated at the check-in table. You will be asked to provide proof of identity.

If your name is found on the voting list and your street address matches the voter list, the supervisor will give you a short ballot application. Sign the application.

If you live at a different address from the one shown for you on the voting list, or if you have been listed as "inactive" because mail sent to your listed address has been returned by the Post Office, you will need to fill out and sign an additional affirmation form before voting.

## When is an ID required?

Beginning this year, poll workers will ask you to show a current and valid ID when you vote at your polling place. Voter ID strengthens the public's faith in the integrity of our elections by enabling poll workers to match a voter's face to the name they give at the polls.

## Poll workers will accept the following valid and current photo IDs:

- › RI driver's license
- › U.S. passport
- › ID card issued by an educational institution in the United States
- › U.S. military identification card
- › ID card issued by the U.S. government or State of Rhode Island like a RIPTA bus pass
- › Government-issued medical card
- › RI Voter ID
- › Employee ID card
- › ID card provided by a commercial establishment
- › Credit or debit card
- › Health club ID card
- › Insurance plan ID card
- › Public housing ID card

Voter ID will be phased in over two election cycles. In 2012 and 2013, poll workers will also accept certain non-photo IDs. The ID must include your name and address as it appears in the poll book and be dated since Nov. 2, 2010, unless the document is intended to be of a permanent nature such as a birth certificate, Social Security card or a government issued medical card, then only your name is required. The IDs include:

- › Birth certificate
- › Social Security card
- › Government-issued medical card
- › Utility bill
- › Bank statement
- › Document issued by a government agency
- › Lease or rental statement
- › Student ID
- › Tuition statement or bill
- › Insurance plan card

## How can I obtain a free Voter ID?

You will not need a Voter ID card if you already have one of the acceptable photo IDs and it is valid and current. If you need a Voter ID, we will provide you with a free one. For a list of locations where you can obtain a free Voter ID card, call us at 401-222-2340 or visit [sos.ri.gov](http://sos.ri.gov). You must provide one of these types of current and valid IDs:

- › Employee ID card
- › ID card provided by a commercial establishment
- › Credit or debit card
- › Military ID card
- › Student ID card
- › Health club ID card
- › Insurance plan ID card
- › Public housing ID card

If you don't have one of those types of current and valid IDs, you must bring one of the following documents. It must

include your name and be dated since November 2, 2010, unless the document is intended to be of a permanent nature such as a pardon or discharge:

- › Utility bill
- › Bank statement
- › Government paycheck
- › Document issued by a government agency
- › Official elections document issued by a government agency, dated for the election in which the registered voter is providing it as proof of identity
- › Voter notification issued by a governmental agency
- › Public housing ID card issued by a governmental agency
- › Lease or rental statement or agreement issued by a governmental agency
- › Student ID card issued by a governmental institution/agency or non-governmental institution/agency
- › Tuition statement or bill issued by a governmental agency
- › Insurance plan card or drug discount card issued by a government agency
- › Discharge certificates, pardons, or other official documents issued to the registered voter by a governmental agency in connection with the resolution of a criminal case, indictment, sentence or other matter
- › Public transit authority senior citizen and disabled discount ID card issued by a governmental agency
- › ID documents issued by governmental disability agencies
- › ID documents issued by homeless shelters and other temporary or transitional facilities
- › Drug prescription issued by a government doctor or other governmental health care provider
- › Property tax statement issued by a governmental agency
- › Vehicle registration issued by a governmental agency
- › Vehicle certificate of ownership issued by a governmental agency

### **What if I don't bring ID to the polls?**


No eligible voter will be turned away at the polls. Voters who do not bring an acceptable ID to their polling place can vote using a standard Provisional Ballot. The ballot will be counted if the signature they give at their polling place matches the signature on their voter registration.

### **How do I get my ballot?**

Once you state your name and address to the bipartisan supervisors, the supervisors will affix your label from the voting list onto a ballot application and ask you to sign the ballot application. After you sign your ballot application, the supervisors will initial your signature and provide you with the appropriate ballot and a paper cover, called a secrecy sleeve. The secrecy sleeve helps to ensure the privacy of your election choice.

The supervisor will send you to a voting booth where you can mark your ballot in private using the special pen provided inside the voting booth.

### **What does the ballot look like?**

The ballot is a large piece of paper, approximately 9 inches by 17 inches. You will see the names of the offices being elected with the names of the candidates and the party they represent listed underneath. You will see an open arrow like this:  to the right of each candidate's name. In addition to the elected offices and candidates, you will also see a number of "questions" that voters must decide. With each question you will see two open arrows next to the words "Approve" and "Reject."

Important: Be sure to check both sides of the ballot. Some elected offices or questions may appear on the back of the ballot.

You may get a "sample ballot" showing all of the elections and ballot questions as they will appear on the day of the election by visiting the Secretary of State's website: [www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic). Or, you may obtain a sample ballot from your local board of canvassers. Sample ballots are available approximately three weeks before the day of the election.

### **What races can I expect to see on the November 6, 2012 Election ballot?**

The first option on your ballot is the straight party option, which is discussed on page 23.

The names of the candidates for each federal and state race appear on the ballot with their party affiliation listed



directly beneath their names. The federal and state races appear in the following order: President and Vice-President, Senator in Congress, Representative in Congress, State Senator and State Representative.

In most cities and towns, local races will appear next on the ballot. In some contests the names of the candidates appear on the ballot along with their party affiliation label. Some contests in cities and towns are labeled as “non-partisan” or “without party marks or designation” and in those cases, the candidate’s party affiliation will not appear on the ballot.

Your local ballot may also include races where more than one individual is to be elected. In those cases you will see instructions such as “Vote for any 2” indicating that the voter may vote for up to 2 candidates in that race, “Vote for any 3” indicating that the voter may vote for up to 3 candidates in that race, and so forth.

The state constitutional amendments and questions, as applicable, are then listed on the ballot. In most cases, the questions start in the first column on the backside of the ballot. Where applicable, local questions follow the state constitutional amendments and questions and are printed on a yellow background. In some cases, questions will not fit on the backside of the ballot and you will be issued an additional ballot.

### **How do I vote for a candidate whose name is on the ballot?**

Complete the arrow   pointing to your choice with a single bold line, like this: 

### **What if the candidate I want to vote for does not appear on the ballot?**

A vote for someone not shown on the printed ballot is called a “write-in.”

#### **You must do two things to cast a “write-in” vote.**

1. Print the name of the person on the blank line labeled “write-in,” and
2. Complete the arrow pointing to the person’s name next to the write-in line.

NOTE: Do not write in the names of candidates whose names already appear on your ballot as candidates for that race.

### **How do I vote for all the candidates of a single party (a “straight party” vote)?**

To cast a vote for all candidates of a single party in the general election, complete the arrow pointing to the party of your choice in the “straight party” section of the ballot.

This is called a “straight party” vote and is counted the same as if you had separately completed the arrows next to every candidate from that party on the entire ballot.

If you cast a straight party vote and also vote separately for an individual candidate or candidates for a certain office on the ballot, only the individual party candidate or candidates that you voted for separately will be counted for that office. The straight party vote will not be counted for that office, but it will still apply in all the offices you do not separately complete.

#### **Reminder about “multiple-vote” races and casting straight party votes.**

Races for some local offices allow you to vote for two or more candidates. If you cast a separate vote for an individual candidate in a “multiple vote” race, your “straight party vote” will **not** apply to any candidate in **that** race. If you intend to vote for more than one candidate in a multiple-vote race, be sure you complete the arrows next to every candidate you wish to vote for in that race.

#### **Don’t forget “non-partisan” races and questions.**

Some elected offices and all ballot questions are “non-partisan.” That means that political parties do not run candidates or take positions on those races. Your straight party vote does not apply to non-partisan races or ballot questions. You must vote for the non-partisan races or ballot questions individually.

### **Using voting equipment**

After marking your ballot, you will place it in the secrecy sleeve and proceed to the voting equipment. You will remove your ballot from the secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot into the voting equipment. (see illustrations on page 26) Place the empty secrecy sleeve on top of the voting equipment.

### **What happens if I make a mistake when marking my ballot?**

You will be given a new ballot to start over. If you make a mistake, do not erase or cross out on the ballot and try to insert it in the voting equipment. Instead, bring your ballot to the clerk. The clerk will ask you to complete several

additional arrows on the ballot. Your old ballot is then completely voided (and sealed to protect the privacy of your intended votes). The clerk will then give you a new ballot and direct you to a booth to complete it.

### **What happens if I vote for too many candidates?**

The voting equipment is programmed to return a ballot if you vote for more candidates than allowed by law. The polling place official will ask you to remove the ballot and take it to the clerk. The clerk will ask you to complete several additional arrows on the ballot. Your old ballot is then completely voided and sealed for your voting privacy. You will be given a new ballot and directed to a voting booth to complete it.

### **Can someone help me if I have any questions on marking my ballot?**

The clerk will explain how to mark it if you ask. The cover of the secrecy sleeve and the inside wall of the voting booth will also contain instructions on how to mark a ballot.

You may also take this booklet or any other materials into the booth to assist you in voting.

You can request the assistance of a bi-partisan pair of supervisors. Federal and state law allows voters who are blind, disabled or unable to read or write to bring a person of their choice into the booth. The warden will have an affidavit that must be completed.

### **What special accommodations have been made for elderly, disabled and visually impaired voters?**

- › In accordance with the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and state law, the State has purchased an accessible voting unit (AutoMark) for every polling place in Rhode Island. The AutoMark will be available at each polling place for every primary or election conducted under Rhode Island General Laws, Title 17. All registered voters are automatically entitled to use the accessible voting equipment located at each polling place – no special applications are required.

When the registered voter arrives at the polling place, the voter will proceed to the check-in table and will identify himself/herself. Voter will tell supervisors at the table that the voter wants to use the AutoMark to assist in casting his/her ballot. Voter will be given a ballot and a secrecy sleeve and directed to the AutoMark unit. Voter will cast votes on ballot through the use of this accessible marking device and will then deposit his/her ballot into the tabulation device at the polling place.

- › Each polling place will have at least one handicapped-accessible voting booth designated for priority use by voters over 65 years of age or disabled. Other voters may use the voting booth only when there are no disabled voters or voters over the age of 65 waiting to vote.
- › Each polling place will be equipped with a sheet magnifier to assist voters who are visually impaired.

### **What can I do if my polling place is not accessible to voters with disabilities?**

If you are a voter with a disability and the polling location where you are assigned to vote is inaccessible to you, you can notify the local board of canvassers at least 5 days in advance and they will arrange an alternate means to allow you to cast your vote. Addresses and telephone numbers for local boards of canvassers are listed on page 28.

### **What if I know I am registered, but the officials can't find my name on the voter list?**

If you believe you were left off the list, do not have an acceptable form of identification, or otherwise prevented from regular voting by error, you will be allowed to cast a provisional ballot. First, you complete a provisional ballot application containing a statement that you are registered and eligible to vote. You then complete a ballot, which you seal inside the envelope provided with your provisional ballot. The envelope and your ballot go to election officials who will double-check and determine whether or not you are eligible to vote. If the official determines that you are eligible, your ballot will be counted with all other ballots in your polling place. The secrecy of your vote will be preserved at all times.

### **How will I know if my provisional ballot was counted?**

Your provisional ballot will be assigned a serial number, which will be provided to you before you leave the polling place. After 48 hours following the election, in most cases you will be able to check whether the ballot was counted or not by visiting the Board of Elections website at [www.elections.ri.gov](http://www.elections.ri.gov) or contacting your local board of canvassers.



# VOTING BY MAIL BALLOT

## **Am I eligible to vote by mail ballot?**

To cast a mail ballot, you must be unable to vote in person for one of these reasons:

1. You are physically unable to vote in a polling place because of illness or physical or mental disability.
2. You are confined to a nursing home, convalescent home or hospital within the State of RI.
3. You are a military or overseas voter away due to employment or service connected with military operations or because you are a spouse or legal dependent who lives with that person or you are a U.S. citizen who will be outside the United States.
4. You might not be able to vote at your polling place on the day of the election.

## **How do I apply for a mail ballot?**

Obtain an application from your local board of canvassers, Board of Elections, Office of the Secretary of State, or online at [www.sos.ri.gov](http://www.sos.ri.gov). Your application must be received by October 16, 2012.

If you are permanently disabled, you may arrange to have mail ballot applications (not the actual ballots) mailed to you automatically. Contact your local board of canvassers.

## **What if I have an emergency and I can't vote in person?**

If emergency circumstances arise after the regular mail ballot application deadline, you may apply for an emergency mail ballot at your local board of canvassers. Emergency mail ballot applications are available and may be submitted until 4 p.m. on the day before the election.

Your emergency mail ballot must be received by the Board of Elections, 50 Branch Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island 02904 no later than 9 p.m. on the day of the election.

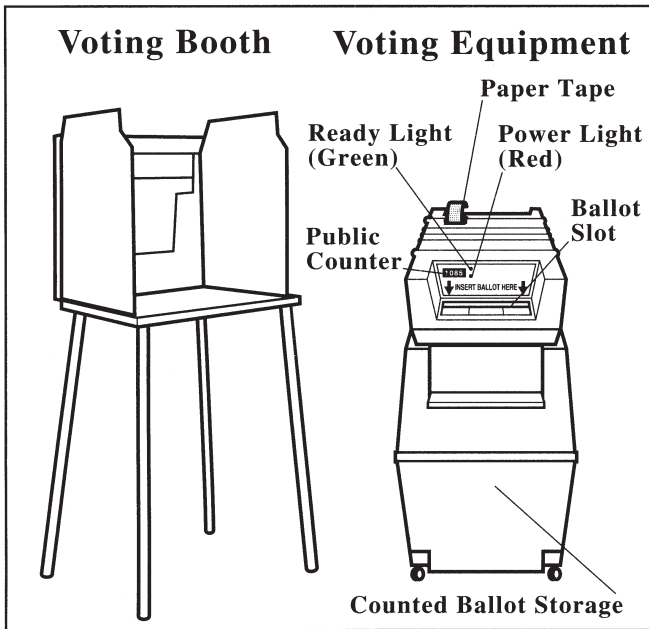
## **Are there special procedures for UOCAVA (Uniformed and Overseas Citizens) voters to obtain mail ballots?**

Yes. Visit the Secretary of State's website at [www.sos.ri.gov/vic](http://www.sos.ri.gov/vic). Then click on "Check Your Voter Registration" and enter the information that is requested under "View your personal voter registration." If you filed a RI mail ballot application or Federal Post Card Application, you will see instructions on how to download and vote your official mail ballot.

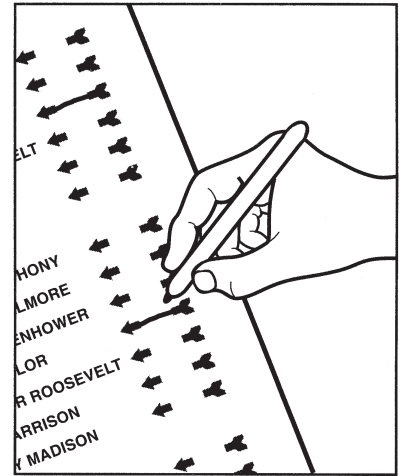
If you believe that you have UOCAVA status and you do not find UOCAVA instructions within your voter information, contact the Secretary of State's office at (401) 222-2340 or [elections@sos.ri.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ri.gov).

# USING VOTING EQUIPMENT

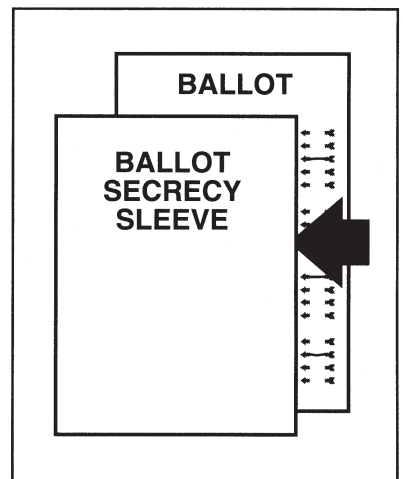
## Voting Procedures



3) Mark your ballot by completing the arrow pointing to the candidate(s) for whom you wish to vote.



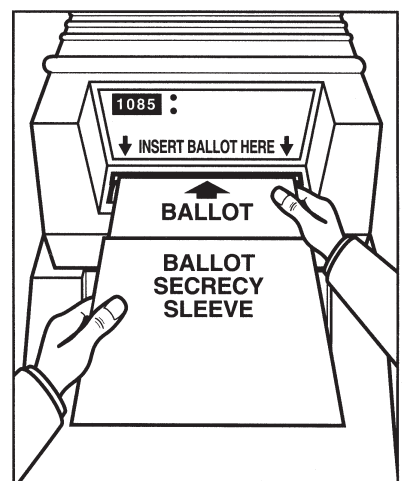
4) Insert your ballot into the secrecy sleeve and go to the voting equipment.



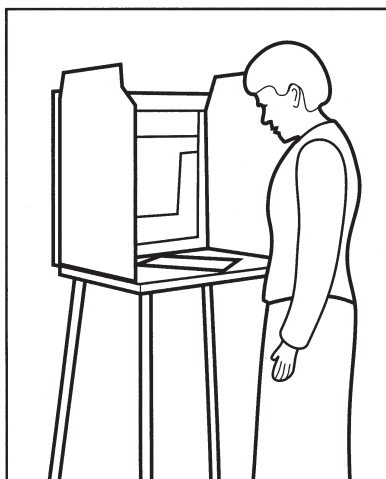
1) Receive ballot and secrecy sleeve from the clerk.



5) Remove ballot from secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot in the voting equipment.



2) Go to the voting booth to mark your ballot in private.



Voting is complete.

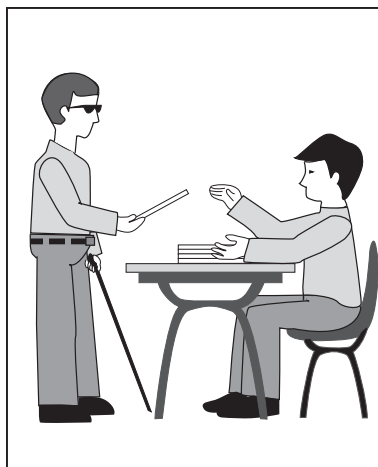
### NOTE

If you make a mistake, do not erase or cross out on the ballot. Bring the ballot to the clerk. In order to protect the secrecy of your intended vote, the clerk will ask you to complete several additional arrows on the ballot. The clerk will then issue a new ballot.

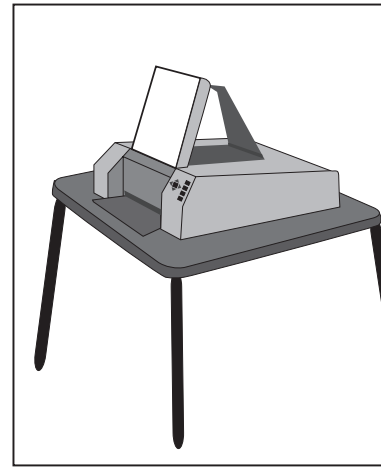
# Using AutoMark Voting Equipment for Persons with Disabilities or Visual Impairments.

In accordance with the federal Help America Vote Act and state law, the State has purchased accessible voting equipment (AutoMark) for every polling place in Rhode Island. The AutoMark will be available at each polling place for every primary or election conducted under Rhode Island General Law, Title 17. All registered voters are automatically entitled to use the accessible voting equipment located at each polling place - no special applications are required.

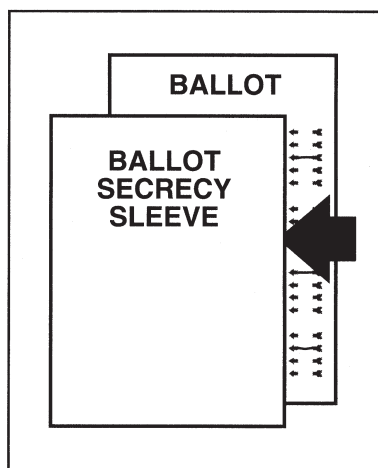
1) Receive ballot and secrecy sleeve from the clerk.



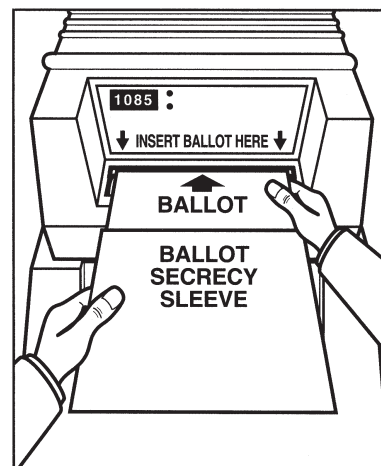
3) Insert your ballot into the secrecy sleeve and go to the voting equipment.



2) Go to the AutoMark booth to mark your ballot in private. Mark your ballot by placing it into the AutoMark unit.



4) Remove ballot from secrecy sleeve and insert your ballot in the voting equipment.



Follow audio instructions and make selections by using the keypad or touchscreen.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
**YOU HAVE JUST VOTED.**

# LOCAL BOARDS OF CANVASSERS

City or Town	Address	Telephone	Polls Open*
Barrington	283 County Rd. 02806	247-1900	7 a.m.
Bristol	10 Court St. 02809	253-7000	7 a.m.
Burrillville	105 Harrisville Main St., Harrisville 02830	568-4300	7 a.m.
Central Falls	580 Broad St. 02863	727-7450	7 a.m.
Charlestown	4540 South County Trl. 02813	364-1200	7 a.m.
Coventry	1670 Flat River Rd. 02816	822-9150	7 a.m.
Cranston	869 Park Ave., Room 100 02910	780-3126	7 a.m.
Cumberland	45 Broad St. 02864	728-2400	7 a.m.
East Greenwich	125 Main St, P.O. Box 111 02818	886-8603	7 a.m.
East Providence	145 Taunton Ave. 02914	435-7502	7 a.m.
Exeter	675 Ten Rod Rd. 02822	294-2287	7 a.m.
Foster	181 Howard Hill Rd. 02825	392-9200	7 a.m.
Glocester	1145 Putnam Pike P.O. Box B 02814	568-6206	7 a.m.
Hopkinton	1 Town House Rd. 02833	377-7777	7 a.m.
Jamestown	93 Narragansett Ave. 02835	423-9804	7 a.m.
Johnston	1385 Hartford Ave. 02919	553-8856	7 a.m.
Lincoln	100 Old River Rd., P.O. Box 100 02865	333-1140	7 a.m.
Little Compton	40 Commons, P.O. Box 226 02837	635-4400	7 a.m.
Middletown	350 East Main Rd. 02842	849-5540	7 a.m.
Narragansett	25 Fifth Ave. 02882	782-0625	7 a.m.
Newport	43 Broadway 02840	845-5384	7 a.m.
New Shoreham	Old Town Rd., P.O. Box 220 02807	466-3200	9 a.m.
North Kingstown	80 Boston Neck Rd. 02852	294-3331	7 a.m.
North Providence	2000 Smith St. 02911	232-0900	7 a.m.
North Smithfield	575 Smithfield Rd. 02896	767-2200	7 a.m.
Pawtucket	137 Roosevelt Ave. 02860	722-1637	7 a.m.
Portsmouth	2200 East Main Rd. 02871	683-3157	7 a.m.
Providence	25 Dorrance St. 02903	421-0495	7 a.m.
Richmond	5 Richmond Townhouse Rd., Wyoming 02898	539-9000	7 a.m.
Scituate	195 Danielson Pike, North Scituate 02857	647-7466	7 a.m.
Smithfield	64 Farnum Pike, Esmond 02917	233-1000	7 a.m.
South Kingstown	180 High St., Wakefield 02879	789-9331	7 a.m.
Tiverton	343 Highland Rd. 02878	625-6704	7 a.m.
Warren	514 Main St. 02885	245-7340	7 a.m.
Warwick	3275 Post Rd. 02886	738-2000	7 a.m.
West Greenwich	280 Victory Hwy. 02817	392-3800	7 a.m.
West Warwick	1170 Main St. 02893	822-9201	7 a.m.
Westerly	45 Broad St. 02891	348-2503	7 a.m.
Woonsocket	169 Main St., P.O. Box B 02895	767-9224	7 a.m.

\*All polls close at 8 p.m.

## **STATE ELECTION OFFICES**

### **Secretary of State**

148 West River St., Providence 02904                      222-2340

### **Board of Elections**

50 Branch Ave., Providence 02904                      222-2345

## **FIND MORE INFORMATION AT**

**[www.sos.ri.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ri.gov/elections)**

- › How to Register and Vote Guide
- › Federal and State Candidates Who Qualified for Ballot Placement
- › Local Candidates Who Qualified for Ballot Placement
- › Sample Ballots
- › Find Your Polling Place
- › Mail Ballot Applications
- › Voter Information Handbook



# **Vote on November 6**

## **October 7 is the deadline for registering to vote**

You must register to vote by October 7 in order to be eligible to cast a ballot on Election Day. Registering is easy. Download a voter registration form from our website or visit your local town or city hall. You must be at least 18 years of age by November 6, a resident of Rhode Island and U.S. citizen.

## **Find your polling place now and save time on Election Day.**

Your polling place has likely changed since the last time you voted. Use our website to find out where you will vote, review a sample ballot for your polling place and confirm that your voter registration information is accurate.

**[sos.ri.gov](http://sos.ri.gov)**