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Senator Whitehouse To Testify For Voters Rights 02-27-2008 10:58 AM

(Washington, DC) — Rhode Island Senator Sheldon Whitehouse is scheduled to testify today on legislation he introduced to protect voters' rights. He will appear before the Senate Rules and Administration Committee in support of the bill to combat a voter-suppression tactic called "vote caging." Caging is a tactic in which a political party, campaign or other entity sends mail marked "do not forward" or "return to sender" to a targeted group of voters, often minorities. They then use the returned mail to compile a list of voters to challenge, claiming they don't lawfully live at the address where they are registered. The Caging Prohibition Act would prohibit challenges to a person's eligibility to vote based solely on returned mail or a caging list. Senator Whitehouse says there is evidence that caging lists were used in Florida, Ohio and Pennsylvania during the 2004 elections.

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