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January 5, 2026

To the Residents of South Windsor and Members of the South Windsor Town Council:

I am writing to express my strong support for the residents of South Windsor who are standing up to defend the fundamental right to vote and the integrity of their local democracy following the November 4, 2025 municipal election.

Elections are the cornerstone of our democracy. The rules governing those elections must be clear, transparent, and applied fairly and they must never be rewritten after voters have cast their ballots. When that principle is violated, public trust is eroded and confidence in government is undermined.

On November 4, 2025, South Windsor voters elected a Town Council and approved charter revisions that, according to the public record and the contemporaneous understanding of those involved, were intended to take effect in 2027. That intent was not ambiguous. It was discussed openly, reflected in meeting materials, and understood across party lines.

In fact, a publicly available video recording of the Charter Revision Commission meeting from March 12, including remarks from then-Chair Andy Paterna and bipartisan members of the Commission, demonstrates clear legislative intent that the charter changes would be implemented beginning in 2027 if approved by voters. That understanding is further confirmed by the Commission's subsequently approved meeting minutes, which also references 2027 as the implementation date.

Despite this clear record, the decision made after the election to apply the charter revisions retroactively, without public discussion or approval by the Town Council, had the effect of overturning the will of the voters and disenfranchising thousands of South Windsor residents.

Regardless of party or ideology, no voter should ever feel that their ballot can be nullified after Election Day by administrative action that contradicts both voter understanding and the documented intent of those who drafted the measure. Democracy depends on rules being honored as they exist when votes are cast, not reinterpreted once election results are known.

I commend the residents of South Windsor who are peacefully and lawfully advocating for transparency, accountability, and respect for the democratic process. Their engagement reflects the best traditions of civic participation and reinforces the principle that government must remain accountable to the people it serves.

As the appeal in *Amadasun v. Armstrong* proceeds, I urge all involved to remember that this matter extends beyond any single council seat. It speaks to the broader obligation we all share to protect the integrity of elections and to ensure that voters can trust that their voices will be respected.

I stand with the voters of South Windsor in their call for fairness, clarity, and fidelity to democratic norms.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John B. Larson".

JOHN B. LARSON
Member of Congress