

I am writing in support of HJ58 and HJ59, allowing for no-excuse absentee voting and for a change in the State Constitution allowing for early in-person voting.

I have been actively managing campaigns for over 10 years in Hamden. During that period, we dramatically increased voter turnout. However, it was this past campaign cycle that drove home the fact that most people WANT to vote.

For many voters, offering an easy way to vote by absentee ballot increases the ability to vote.

We should be doing everything we possibly can to make voting easier- including making secure ballot boxes available in more locations. In Hamden, even amidst confusing messaging, we received close to 300 votes we most likely wouldn't have collected from the southern end of town.

I recommend the early in-person voting period to be the two weeks before the election day and including both weekends. This would enable any worker to be able to cast their ballot in every election.

Thank you.

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