

Testimony for 2/22/21 public hearing in SUPPORT of bill HJ 58 for Absentee Voting and HJ 59 for Early Voting.

to: gaetestimony@cga.ct.gov

I'm writing to express my strong support for HJ 58 for No-Excuse Absentee Voting and HJ 59 for Early Voting

I strongly support constitutional amendments that will allow for no-excuse absentee voting and early in-person voting. Connecticut demonstrated, in the 2020 general election, that no-fault absentee voting can be safely and efficiently carried out without risk of fraud. Connecticut is one of very few states that do not allow early voting and it is time we joined the ranks of the many states that permit and encourage it.

As a parent, physician, and public health professional, I am strongly in favor of making it easier and safer for all of us, especially working parents and senior citizens, to vote more conveniently. My Dad, a Fairfield County disabled WWII veteran who was a poll worker at every election, role modeled for his family life-long dedication to exercising the right and duty to vote.

I strongly support making voting as safe and as accessible as possible. The right to vote is one of our country's most precious rights. I'm asking you to act to remove barriers to exercising that right.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Karen Edwards MD MPH

Stamford CT

In support of HJ 58 for No-Excuse Absentee Voting and HJ 59 for Early Voting.