

February 22, 2021

Testimony in Support of H.J. No. 58

Dear Honorable Committee Members,

I am writing to express my support for H.J. 58, a Resolution Proposing a State Constitutional Amendment to Allow No-Excuse Absentee Voting.

In 2020, Connecticut saw record turnout in both in-person and absentee ballot voting, and yet the process went very smoothly, thanks to the hard work of the Secretary of State, election officials across the state, municipal staff, and many dedicated volunteers. Our great state stepped up to the challenge of conducting an election safely during a pandemic, and a record number of citizens had their voices heard in the process.

Any measure that expands voting access in our state makes our voting process more democratic. All citizens deserve the opportunity to have a say in electing their representatives. Many people face barriers in voting in person on election day, including access to a vehicle, coordinating work schedules, child care, and more. People who face these barriers are working hard to care for their families and communities, and we should be making it easier – not harder – for them to vote.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Sincerely,

Melissa Meek
Milford, CT