

Dear GAE Committee Co-Chairs Sen. Flexer and Rep. Fox, Vice Chairs Sen. Haskell and Rep. Thomas, and Ranking Members Sen. Sampson and Rep. Mastrofrancesco and Members of the GAE Committee,

Please support H.J. No. 58: RESOLUTION PROPOSING A STATE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO ALLOW NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING and H.J. No. 59: RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW FOR EARLY VOTING.

As a long-time Connecticut voter, I have experienced the inconvenience of Connecticut's limited voting hours. I have had to vote early in the morning, after dropping off children at daycare but before going to work, or rush to the polls at the end of the work day.

One year, I had an unexpected business trip occur on election day. I learned about the trip too late to request an absentee ballot. Unfortunately, early in-person voting was not an option.

In 2020, I appreciated the fact that I received an absentee ballot request form and then an actual absentee ballot without the need to wait in line. My ballot was deposited in a drop box, again without waiting in line. This helped to keep members of my household healthy despite the pandemic.

The November 2020 election has shown Connecticut residents the advantages of no-excuse absentee voting and early voting that residents of most other states have already experienced in one form or another. The election was a success, with a high voter turnout and a low percent of rejected ballots. Voting was easy and could be done well before the election date.

Please vote to allow Connecticut residents the opportunity to vote on constitutional amendments to allow no-excuse voting and early voting.

Sincerely,
Pamela Miller
Hamden, CT