

My name is Tameeka Parks, I am a voter from Hamden, CT. Passing both HJ 58, a Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the State Constitution to Permit No-Excuse Absentee Voting; and HJ 59, a Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the State Constitution to Permit Early Voting are extremely important to me because this gives the voters access to vote with no excuse or blockage ( working, transportation). 43 states offer in-person early voting options, including 6 states with all-mail elections, making it unnecessary for them. Connecticut lags behind most of the nation. Many voters work 2 or 3 jobs just to keep their families afloat and need more options than just a single day to get time off for voting. Nearly 80% of Connecticut voters support early voting. More than 650,000 voters voted by absentee ballot in the 2020 CT General Election—which means they voted early on their own schedules. Connecticut’s record-breaking 80% voter turnout in the 2020 General Election was thanks to absentee ballot voting. Furthermore, 73% of Connecticut voters support giving all voters the option to vote by absentee ballot without needing an excuse.

I implore you to pass both of these amendments.

Thank you.