

**Testimony in SUPPORT of:**  
**HJ 58: Resolution Proposing a State Constitutional Amendment to Allow No-Excuse  
Absentee Voting**  
**HJ 59: Resolution Approving an Amendment to the State Constitution to Allow for Early  
Voting**

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:

Voting in Connecticut needs to be more convenient for ALL voters. During the 2020 election cycle, I couldn't believe how restrictive CT's voting laws are compared to those of other states! It's really shameful to learn that our great state is one of only a handful of states that does not offer either early voting or unrestricted absentee voting. If I wanted to live in states that suppress voting rights, I sure have a lot to pick from, yet I live here because of our progressive values and our continued fight for equality.

I am imploring you to vote YES on HJ 58 in support of a Resolution Proposing a State Constitutional Amendment to Allow No-Excuse Absentee Voting which would allow all registered voters to choose to vote by absentee ballot and in support of HJ 59: Resolution Approving an Amendment to the State Constitution to Allow for Early Voting to allow all registered voters to choose to vote early.

By voting YES to these, you are not supporting or opposing Absentee Voting for all. Rather, you are simply voting YES to allow your constituents to express OUR opinion on whether or not WE want voting to be easier, accessible and convenient in CT via a ballot referendum.

Many voters do not understand that if the NEAV legislation does not pass with at least a 75% majority they will have to wait until AT LEAST 2026 for the choice to vote absentee without an excuse. This is unacceptable. Let's bring Connecticut in line with other states and give voters the choice to vote in person on more than one day or by absentee ballot from home.

Thank you,

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