

To: GAETestimony@cga.ct.gov
Subject: Oppose HJ58 & HJ59

I oppose HJ58 (No Excuse Absentee Ballots) and HJ59 (Early Voting).

HJ 58:

I disagree that No-Excuse Absentee Voting is a necessity. There will be greater opportunity for fraud if the State should go down this path.

- Mass mailing of absentee ballots sent to every voter on the voter rolls is a problem when the voter rolls are not clean
- Signatures cannot be verified when ballots are cast by mail, so no Voter ID
- Drop boxes are certainly not secure, causing chain of custody concerns
- What happens to the ballots that are invalid?
- How do I know my vote has been counted?

States that have done mail-in voting successfully have the infrastructure in place to do this, as well as a process in place to handle exceptions. Planning for this is done over several years. It is not done on a whim, 6 months before a general election, with no documented process for how this will work, because Covid is being used as the excuse.

If you can stand in line at Walmart during a pandemic, you can stand in line at a polling place to cast your vote in person.

HJ 59:

I oppose early voting in CT because it is not necessary. Why should this even be an option? If it is not important enough for you to make the time to vote on election day – in person - then don't vote.

Linda Shapiro
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