

We are very strongly opposed to changing Connecticut's Constitution as proposed in Bills HJ 58 and HJ 59. Both of these bills are contrary to the conduct of safe and fair elections that the people can trust.

Universal mail-in ballots provide practically no means for reliable authentication and provide immense opportunity for failure through incompetence and outright fraud. As we have seen with the 2020 election, there was overwhelming evidence of election failure and a massive no-confidence in the results. As a nation we conducted our highest election performing worse than a third world country. Mail-in voting allows politicians or others to manipulate results by providing campaign worker "help", harassment, intimidation, buying votes, substitution, throwing away ballots, counterfeiting, forgery, misdirecting, ineligible and deceased voting, and many other ways to cheat that we are just learning of. HJ 58 would bring Connecticut alongside the battleground states where voter distrust prevails. Timely, valid and trustworthy elections can only be achieved with voter ID, using controlled and preserved paper ballots, through in-person voting or the traditional absentee ballot system. Results must be available no later than 24 hours after election day. No machines should ever be utilized to count votes that are accessible through USB drives or Internet connections. This vulnerability has been a doctrine in the defense industry for many years and all elections should be treated with the same degree of security.

Early voting defies common sense. An election can only be fair if the electorate makes their final voting decision at a given time, election day, ensuring that everyone has the same information available to them. Otherwise, we might as well conduct our courts in this same manner and let jurors decide their verdict before final arguments are made. Or comparing this to some states, they could decide on the first day of a trial and go home. In our 2020 national election, a sufficient number of voters to change the results, have stated they would have voted differently if they had known facts that were withheld until after they submitted their votes. Additionally, HJ 59 probably is in violation of the US Constitution.

Conducting fair, verifiable elections that the American people trust and the world witnesses is certainly among our most important obligations to freedom, our country and its Constitution. Connecticut must uphold election integrity and not falter to partisan attempts to further undermine a system that used to serve us greatly.

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