

I am Linda Zukauskas, 78 Transylvania Rd., Woodbury, CT.

I would like to express support for no-excuse absentee voting and early voting and to ask that my representatives also support these resolutions. I was able to remain safe during the pandemic and vote thanks to the temporary use of the no-excuse absentee voting method. I am familiar with the traditional uses of this ballot and know there may be reasons for voting that are not included in the list (e.g., military service, absent from my polling place). There are instances not included in the ballot, such as disabilities that make it a challenge to walk from the parking lot of my polling place to the building, where it may be necessary to stand in line, or the lack of transportation. In a state where the ALICE population is at least a third in most towns, we should realize that we may be making it impossible for some voters to participate in the election process simply because there is no bus service from one end of Woodbury to the senior center where we vote.

Instead of trying to think of all permutations that would encompass the population that might use the absentee ballot, I believe this method of voting should be implemented for anyone who should chose to use it. Absentee voting is secure and an effective tool in conducting a fair election given the steps needed to use such a ballot (e.g., application followed by ballot).

Thank you for considering my testimony.