



GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Public Hearing January 28, 2013

Testimony in SUPPORT of Raised Bill No. 5599, AAC Provisional Ballots for State and Municipal elections.

Raised H.B.No. 5599 An Act Concerning Provisional Ballots For State And Municipal Elections

Senator Musto, Representative Jutila and Members of the GAE Committee,

My name is Sue W. Larsen. I am Chairman of the ROVAC Legislative Committee and I am here to speak in SUPPORT of HB5599.

Provisional ballots have been used successfully in federal elections for many years but current law does not allow the use of provisional ballots in State or Municipal elections. It is a tool that protects a voter's right to vote when there is a discrepancy between the voter's claim and the official voter list. The provisional ballot allows the voter to fill out a ballot. The two registrars of voters then have 6 days in which to decide whether to accept the ballot or reject it based on registration evidence and history. The Provisional Ballot differs from a Challenge Ballot which is only opened with a judge's order.

This bill has been proposed and supported in the past. I urge passage of it now given that this is a municipal election year.

Sue W. Larsen, Registrar of Voters – South Windsor

Chair, ROVAC Legislative Committee