



Judith A Beaudreau  
E-mail: JudithBeaudreau@gmail.com  
Cell: 860-670-2159

# TOWN OF VERNON

Election Division  
Registrars of Voters  
Election Administrators

375 Hartford Turnpike # 117, Vernon, CT 06066  
Office: (860) 896-2376  
Fax: (860) 896-2379  
[www.vernonelections.org](http://www.vernonelections.org)

Senator Musto, Representative Julita & Members of the GAE

RHB 6427 AAC Polling Places For a Primaries

My Name is Judith Beaudreau; I am an Election Administrator / Registrar of Voters for the Town of Vernon, CT. I would like to thank the committee for raising this crucial bill. We as registrars have been trying for years to get this passed. Over the recent years we have seen a decline of participation in Primaries. The costs of running primaries are expensive when most people do not participate. We vote here in CT for 14 hours a reduction in polling place would not only help in cost but it would defiantly give ample time for a primary voter to get to the new selected polling place. By notifying the potential voters of the change in sites it will be like an invitation to come to vote, clearly an advantage for increased voting. The added cost in notification to the potential voters is so cost effective v/s opening all the polling places and staffing each polling place. I am sure there will be some voters who will object to this but they must remember that these are their tax dollars and we are trying to help in cutting down Primary costs. In municipalities and larger cities where primaries are actually the deciding factor and outcome of the general Election, it can be assumed that those registrars would not take advantage of this proposed bill. That their Primaries are well attended and participation is larger than most municipalities. In my municipality where I have now reduced to 4 polling places from 7. I would go down to one polling place as we do for referendums. We have for about 15 years been having our referendums in one polling place. Over the last 25 years or so it has proven to have the same or more participation than it was to open all of the 7 polling places. I have collected stats and figures over the years and can attest that it was clearly a waste of money for the participating votes that were cast. Voters will vote if they want to. It is not a problem or stumbling block for them to go to another place, as long as they are notified regarding the change.