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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 5278
AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATORY REGISTRAR OF VOTER SESSIONS
Government Administration and Elections Committee Public Hearing
March 3, 2014

Chairmen Musto and Jutila, Ranking Members McLachlan and Hwang, and members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 5278, AN ACT CONCERNING MANDATORY REGISTRAR OF VOTER SESSIONS.

Section 9-17 of the CGS states that each town's Registrars of Voters will hold three sessions each year prior to "election day" to examine the qualifications of electors and admit those found qualified. The three sessions are currently held on the fourteenth day before primary day, the Saturday of the third week before an election day and the seventh day before an election day. This bill proposes to amend section 9-17, eliminating two of the three mandatory sessions reserved for selecting electors.

Since originally enacted, Connecticut has made voter registration much easier. According to some of the Registrars I have spoken with, these required sessions are poorly attended and seem obsolete. I encourage committee members to reach out to your respective towns to see if your Registrars of Voters find these sessions worthwhile.

Thank you for your consideration. I urge you to vote in favor of HB 5278.