

NEWTOWN MUNICIPAL CENTER  
3 PRIMROSE STREET  
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT 06470  
TEL. (203) 270-4250 / FAX (203) 270-4205



LeReine Frampton  
Joanne Albanesi  
Registrars of Voters

[www.newtown-ct.gov](http://www.newtown-ct.gov)

## **TOWN OF NEWTOWN OFFICE OF THE REGISTRARS**

**To: Senator Hwang, Representative Carter, Representative Bolinsky, Representative Sredzinski and members of the GAE**

**This testimony is to oppose SB1051.**

**As elected officials you are probably well aware of the false statements made against elected officials. No elected official or appointed official does everything perfectly every time but with the help of ROVAC and the training we get through our self funded organization we are making every effort to have fair, accurate, legal elections.**

**Back in the 90's I was a Deputy Registrar and attended classes at Briarwood through a certification program designed by the late Judith Beaudreau. Many of us attended and learned a lot then the SOTS would not accept the certification program. We have been trying to have a certification program that they would approve since that time. We have two conferences per year with Registrar taught classes one day and SOTS training another day at each one. We have county meetings to go over best practices and be a support group for each other. If we have a question or problem we can pick up our phone and another registrar will help us.**

**While the two-elected Registrar system is unique to our state, that does not mean that it is wrong. I love the checks and balances. I love the idea that two people can use their strengths to make sure each election is the best it can be. What matters is that the work is done and we have a checks and balance system so that no party can have all the influence over any election. I have worked with a Republican Town Clerk and Registrar for the entire time I have been with the Registrars office. While in the office you are a registrar and the people coming in should not know what party you are with.**

**When elected officials appoint people to their jobs you can have a bunch of issues. I have heard of people voting for incumbents even if they are not the best choice so that their appointees do not lose their jobs. I have heard of appointees being pressured to campaign for elected officials if they want to be reappointed. When the staffing changes, especially locally, the office suffers during the transition and dollars are wasted on retraining all because of what party they are. Typically it seems that elected officials like to have their appointees be the same party. They are less likely to challenge them for their position and less likely to sabotage them.**

**We are not the stereotypic blue haired old ladies with a clipboard that come out once a year. We are dedicated, professionals passionate about our responsibility as the Gatekeepers of Democracy.**

LeReine Frampton Democratic Registrar and Joanne Albanesi Republican Registrar