

The Town of Bloomfield Registrars of Voters are unable to attend the GAE Committee's Public Hearing on March 9, 2015. We submit our testimony on SB 1051, An Act Strengthening Connecticut's Elections, and HB 6950, An Act Concerning Reforms to Election Administration:

- How can a politically elected town legislative body (in conjunction with the municipal clerk) appoint one neutral registrar of voters? We recommend that the current statute stay the same; however, new language should be added to allow each town the right to adopt its own policy through charter revision or new ordinance as it relates to changes in the office of the registrar of voters.
- We support each town having the right to adopt its own policy because we know in the Town of Bloomfield and 95% of the other towns in the State the law works. In these towns, the registrars follow the law, work together, communicate and get the job done.
- We support each town having the right to adopt its own policy so that if a town or city has a problem as we have seen in past elections, they have the means to make such corrections. It would be a mistake to revamp all election laws based on a few towns and cities that are having issues.
- We support improvements to our election process but recommend that the current statutes for the registrar of voters remain the same. The election process itself needs improvements, whether it is updating technology, streamlining forms and processes, or helping to make the unknown vote less confusing.
- We support a certification program for registrars. It should be mandatory that each registrar become certified and continue ongoing education for the integrity of the election laws.

Anne E. Wall, Democrat
Barbara Reisner, Republican