

To: Government Administration and Elections Committee  
From: Susan Miller, citizen, 10 Ethan Drive, Windsor, CT 06095  
Date: 2/22/2017  
Re: Proposed bills

Senators and Representatives:

Thank you for putting forth several bills regarding the election process in Connecticut. I believe it is essential for our democracy to continue to expand access to voting and to make the voting process as easy as possible for citizens in our state, and across the nation. It is the most basic right we have. Thank you also for raising issues around transparency and fairness in the election process. I believe both of these concepts are vitally important to allow for an informed citizenship. Regarding specific proposed bills:

**Proposed HB 6575**

I support that any presidential candidate be required to release the previous three years' worth of federal income taxes. This bill seems to say that those electors of the candidate may not appear on the ballot if this has not occurred. If this is the only way to ensure that a presidential candidate release that data, then I support it. It seems that it could be more direct – that a presidential candidate her/himself may not appear on the ballot in Connecticut unless the tax information is available to state residents prior to voting.

**Proposed HB 5434, HB 5435, SB 9**

I fully support these bills that commit Connecticut's electors to the winner of the national popular vote and join other states already in this agreement. I believe that the United States needs to move away from the Electoral College to a one-person, one-vote election system. The current Electoral College system vastly underrepresents votes from many states and overrepresents others. This is not fair and no longer necessary for our democracy. The only fair approach is to elect a president by overall vote counts and these bills move us in that direction.

**Proposed HB 5941**

I support this bill to extend voter registration in the event of a disaster. Voting is an essential right and we should be doing everything possible to safeguard it.

**Proposed HB 6423**

I support this bill to extend elector status and allow registration to any person at the registration location by 8:00 pm. Again, making voting as universal and easy as possible helps to safeguard our democracy.