

March 9, 2019

Dear Senator Mae Flexer, Representative Daniel J. Fox, and Distinguished Members of the GAE Committee:

My name is Christine Farley and I live in West Hartford. I am a member of the Voting Rights CT organization.

I am testifying in support of the Early Voting Amendment Bill HJ 161. An act concerning, or, a resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution to allow for early voting and no-excuse absentee voting.

For many years I was a single parent juggling huge job responsibilities and child care. Even with voting hours extended into the evening on Election Day, I always found it extremely difficult to have my daughter cared for while I stood in long lines at my polling place. It would have been of enormous help to me to have been able to vote on the weekend prior to Election Day.

I believe strongly that Connecticut needs to support our democracy by providing greater access to voting. It's imperative that our state, a leader in so many areas of social justice, join the voting-rights efforts of the 39 other states who provide an early voting opportunity for their citizens.

I urge the Committee to vote yes and support the Early Voting Amendment Bill HJ 161.

Thank you for taking the time to read this testimony.

Sincerely,
Christine Farley
West Hartford