

March 11, 2019

GAE Committee
Connecticut Legislature

Re: HJ 161

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

I am testifying in support of HJ 161: RESOLUTION PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO ALLOW FOR EARLY VOTING AND NO-EXCUSE ABSENTEE VOTING

Early Voting is nonpartisan and enjoys broad support. According to a 2016 Gallup poll, 80% of Americans support early voting.

Early voting would make it:

Easy for parents, single parents, and caretakers of young children or elderly parents, who may miss voting because their child or elderly parent suddenly becomes quite ill.

Easy for workers and students, who may lose wages, are unable to get time off from work to vote, or who commute long distances in- or out of state, and must leave home before the polls open, and cannot return in time to vote. They will be able to vote on a weekend day.

Easy for senior citizens, the elderly or those who are ill, who may not feel well enough to go to the polls on one specific day, but given a choice of days, will allow them to cast their vote when they feel well or when the weather is good.

Easy for election officials, to resolve problems more readily, without the pressure of a one day Election Day.

Thank you for your service to our state and for your attention.

Jill Grieveson
Glastonbury