

March 9, 2019

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

My name is Andrew Zehner and I have lived in New Haven, Connecticut for the past 26 years.

I am testifying in support of HJ 161 – **A Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the State Constitution to Allow for Early Voting and Non-Excuse Absentee Voting.**

I believe strongly that every eligible voter in Connecticut should have the opportunity to vote, and that our laws and procedures should make voting simple. The current Constitutional voting requirements unnecessarily and in some cases, unfairly, make it difficult for our fellow citizens to exercise this right. I have had the chance to participate as a volunteer on several campaigns for higher office, and I have seen first-hand how small impediments can keep voters away from the polls. This resolution will start the process of bringing Connecticut into line with many other states that have successfully implemented early voting and increased voter participation.

In conclusion, I ask the Committee to vote yes and to support HJ 161.

Thank you to the Committee for your important work on behalf of the citizens of Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew Zehner
New Haven, Connecticut