

Dear Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, and distinguished members of the GAE Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony today. On behalf of Connecticut Working Families, I write in strong support of Senate Joint Resolution 14, a resolution proposing a state constitutional amendment for early voting and SB 1104, AAC gender neutrality in the state constitution.

Connecticut Working Families is a growing progressive organization that fights for an economy that works for everyone, whether white, Black, or brown, and a democracy in which every voice matters. We recognize that our democracy and economy are strongest when everyone can participate, and that workers need voices in their workplaces and individuals need voices in our democracy.

We stand in strong support of SJ 14. Early voting proposals have had great success in other states in increasing voter turnout and ensuring a broader participation in our democracy. We fully support a constitutional amendment to permit early voting.

We also stand in strong support of SB 1104. The establishment of a commission to review text of the state constitution to recommend removal of gendered language in our state constitution and reiterate the equality of citizens of all genders before the law would continue the process to establish Connecticut as a leader in gender and LGBTQIA+ equality. While more can always be done to ensure protection of all our citizens, CT Working Families strongly supports this step.

Thank you for your time and consideration of these bills.

Sarah Ganong
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Political Director