To the co-chairs Senator Flexer, Senator McLachlan, Representative Fox and the esteemed members of the GAE committee,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak about why I support immediately eliminating the unfair practice of felony disenfranchisement for persons on parole in the state of Connecticut concerning their democratic right to vote.

My name is Logan Ledman, and I am a student in Connecticut. I strongly encourage you to vote for S.B. 233, specifically because of its elimination of felony disenfranchisement. 3,000 citizens of Connecticut--people who work, live, and pay taxes--are serving parole and being denied their right to vote. Every single state in the Northeast has recognized that people who have served their prison sentences and returned to life outside the jail have the right to democratically participate in the electoral process which runs their lives.

I believe enthusiastically that the right to vote is a right that should never be infringed--especially not in the context of a carceral system which we all know disproportionately punishes black, Latino, and Native American citizens. Allowing an unjust, racist, broken system to determine which of us deserves the right to vote is tantamount to supporting outright voter suppression against people of color. We must join the rest of the region and lead the country in protecting voter rights.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this critically important issue. I urge you to support S.B. 233: An Act Concerning Elections.

Thank you,
Logan Ledman